SHONEN CAPTAIN COMICS

逆境ナイン 1

島本和彦

SC COMICS

逆境ナイン 1

島本和彦

徳間書店
SC-98

男のゆくところ常に逆境がある。
全力学園の野球部員9人も、いま大いなる逆境に喘していた。
突破すべき目標は、ずばり甲子園大会優勝!!
ゆけ、全力ナイン! 戦え、不屈闘志!!
どうせ明日は明日の風が吹く!!
人生の教訓を満載した待望の書、いよいよ登場!!

NINE IN ADVERSITY
by
Shimamoto Kazuhiko

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92 C 25 b

絶賛発売中!!

SHONEN CAPTAIN COMICS SPECIAL
仮面ボクサー
島本和彦　定価490円(税込)

少年キャプテンコミックス
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落丁・乱丁の場合はおとりかえいたします。

逆境のご利益というものは
すばらしいものだ。
——シェイクスピア

繁栄は友をつくり、
逆境は友をためす。
——イギリスのことわざ

SHONEN CAPTAIN COMICS

逆境ナイン VOL.1

島本和彦

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SEVEN STAR STORIES
TRANS RIAS
PROOF 6, EVOARIS
EDITS CRINALE

逆境ナイン

CHAPTER 1
INDOMITABLE DETERMINATION

SHIMAMOTO KAZUHIKO

WHAT IS
ADVERSITY
!?

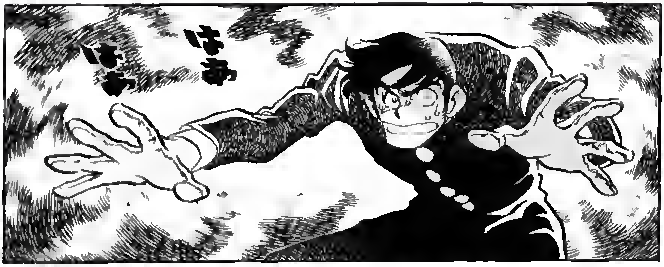
PRINCIPAL

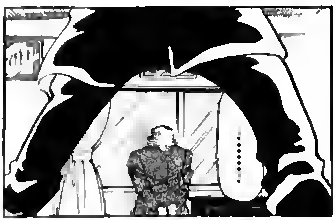
PRINCIPAL
BASEBALL TEAM CAPTAIN, FUKUTSU TOSHI, IS COMING IN!

TEAM
CANCELLED!!

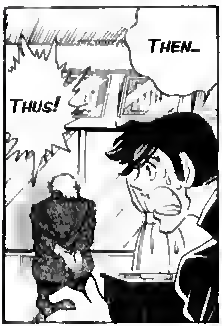
ADVERSITY

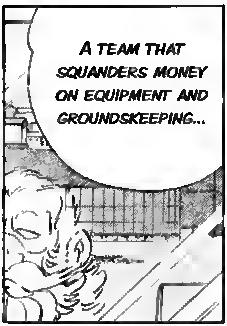
IT'S DEFINED AS A SITUATION WHERE THINGS DON'T PROCEED THE WAY YOU THINK THEY WOULD, OR A STATE OF MISFORTUNE!

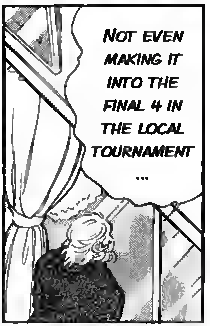

はあ
はあ


.....

H... HAS-
THAT BEEN DE-CIDED?


THEN...
THUS!


A TEAM THAT SQUANDERS MONEY ON EQUIPMENT AND GROUNDSKEEPING...

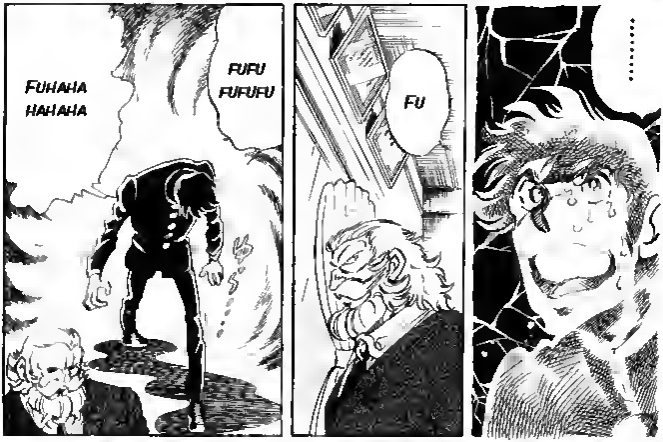

NOT EVEN MAKING IT INTO THE FINAL 4 IN THE LOCAL TOURNAMENT ...

THEREFORE THE DISSOLUTION...
IS MY PERSONAL JUDGMENT!
THERE'S NO REASON TO CONTINUE SUCH A MISERABLE TEAM.
PLEASE! JUST CUT THE FUNDING INSTEAD!
THE FUNDING...
ARE YOU A DUMBASS !?

IN TWO TO THREE DAYS YOUR CLUBROOM WILL BE GIVEN TO THE RUGBY TEAM.
I WILL ONLY GIVE YOU UNTIL THEN.
はあ はあ はあ はあ
……
GO HOME!
THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO BE SAID!

I HAVE NO INTEREST IN A TEAM THAT DOESN'T WIN.
THAT'S BECAUSE THEY'RE A TEAM THAT HAS WON
THE RUGBY TEAM AGAIN ?
WHY-
I HAVE NO PLANS TO PAY FOR SOME HALF BAKED TEAM MEETINGS!
IF YOU'RE GOING TO HALF-ASS IT, THEN IT'S BETTER IF YOU DON'T DO IT AT ALL!
USUALLY THERE ARE RESULTS IF YOU WORK HARD.
BUT WE ARE JUST A HIGH SCHOOL TEAM..
THIS IS IT!
NO MORE !
MR. PRIN-CIPAL!

THIS IS ADVERSITY !!


FUHAHA HAHAHA
FUFU FUFUFU
FU
.....

UWAHAHAHAHA
!!
MR. PRINCI-PAL!

OH, MR. PRIN-CIPAL!
FINE!
HIS EYES HAVE CHANGED FROM THOSE LOSER EYES TO THESE WOLF-LIKE ONES...
HIS EYES ARE BACK TO LIFE!
OH...
SPIT IT OUT!
LET'S HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY...

*KOSHIEN IS JAPAN'S NATIONAL TOURNAMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL AND CAUSES YOUNG BOYS TO CRY MANLY TEARS.

GULP
WE...
.....
N...
NO...
はっ
はあ
はあ
はあ
はあ

ぐぐっ…!
BUT THIS CLAIM MIGHT JUST BE TOO BIG FOR HIM...!!
THIS MAN IS MAKING A BIG CLAIM...

IT'S NOT GOOD TO MAKE AN IRRESPONSIBLE AND BASELESS CLAIM...
NO...
I CAN SEE IT!

I CAN SEE KOSHIEN!

甲子園
優勝
VICTORIBUS PALM
昭和五十年 優勝 浪華商業学校
高等学校
UH...
WOULDN'T YOU WANT TO PUT THIS GLORIOUS CHAMPIONSHIP FLAG IN THIS CORNER?
MR. PRIN-CIPAL!

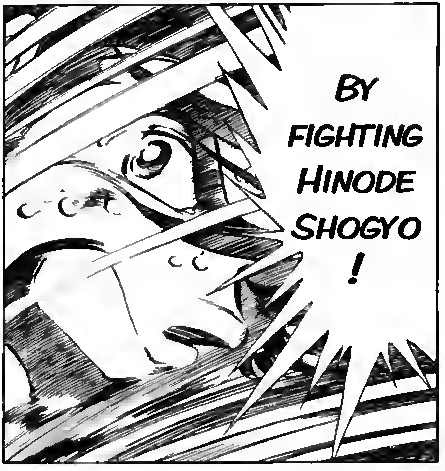
TALKING ABOUT THE CHAM-PIONSHIP FLAG...
WHAT A BLUFF. ALL OF A SUDDEN...
FU FU FU ...
FU...
HE'S PUTTING HIS LIFE ON THE LINE...
FUFUFU.. THIS IS GREAT... THOSE EYES AND THAT SWEAT...
IF YOU GIVE US TEN DAYS... WE'LL SHOW YOU PROOF!
EMPTY WORDS MEAN NOTHING TO ME!
I KNOW!
YOU BETTER HAVE THE DETERMI-NATION TO FACE EVEN DEATH!
WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED TALKING.

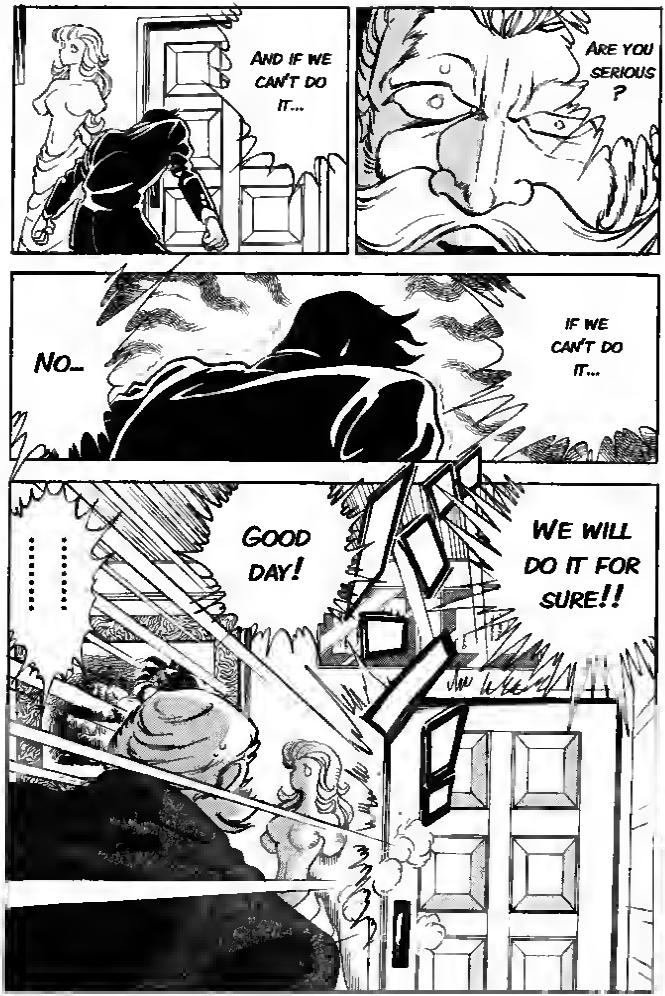
THE AVERAGE HEIGHT OF THE BASEBALL TEAM PLAYERS IN HINODE SHOGYO IS 182CM!! THEY MADE IT INTO THE TOP 8 AT THE SPRING TOURNAMENT!
WELL !?
WHERE'S THE PROOF?
HINODE SHOGYO !!
THAT'S WHAT I'M WAITING FOR!!
SO WHAT ABOUT HINODE?
IN TEN DAYS, WE'LL HAVE A PRACTICE MATCH WITH THEM!
A FIGHT TO THE END!
HI-NODE ...
A FIGHT TO THE END!!
A FIGHT TO THE END?

YOU THINK YOU CAN WIN !?
DUMBASS!
.....

WAH!
IT'S RAINING!
FUKUTSU, WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WE HAVEN'T FINISHED TALKING YET.
TALKING ISN'T GETTING US ANYWHERE...
.....

AND THE PROOF OF OUR DETER-MINATION WILL BE SHOWN IN TEN DAYS
WE WILL SURELY GET THAT CHAMPIONSHIP FLAG AND PUT IT IN THAT CORNER OVER THERE!!


BY FIGHTING HINODE SHOGYO !


AND IF WE CAN'T DO IT...
ARE YOU SERIOUS ?
NO...
IF WE CAN'T DO IT...
GOOD DAY!
WE WILL DO IT FOR SURE!!

BASEBALL CLUBROOM
UM...

THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!
IT IS POS-SIBLE!
DUMB-ASSES!
D...
.....
WHAT MADE YOU THINK THAT IT'S DOABLE WHEN YOU GAVE THAT CONDITION, CAPTAIN?
THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN DO IT!
IT'S JUST IMPOSSIBLE!
IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK ON THESE GUYS!!
EVEN IF I SAY THAT I SAW KOSHIEN!

Tsukita
--
Yes?
Huh?
Can you close off the room so that our voices don't go outside...
O-
OK-
What are you thinking, captain!
Ah!
I'm giving you all a chance to counter-attack.
If you think that it's impossible to do...
Then yell out the reason for that, from the top of your lungs!

IF YOU CAN CONVINCE ME THAT IT TRULY IS IMPOSSIBLE, THEN YOU GUYS WIN!
DO IT!
HUH -
FINE!
F-

IS THAT ALL?
WHAT'S WRONG?
AGAINST HINODE ...?
DO YOU... REALLY THINK WE CAN WIN?
WHAT?
TOSHI -
HM...

IT'S NOT ABOUT WHETHER WE CAN OR CANNOT WIN...
EVEN IF IT IS IMPOSSIBLE —
WE MUST WIN!
I SEE —
FUFU —
I FEEL ALL REFRESHED NOW THAT I'VE SPOKE MY MIND.
ME TOO!
FUFU...
FUHA HAHA!
HAHA HAHA!

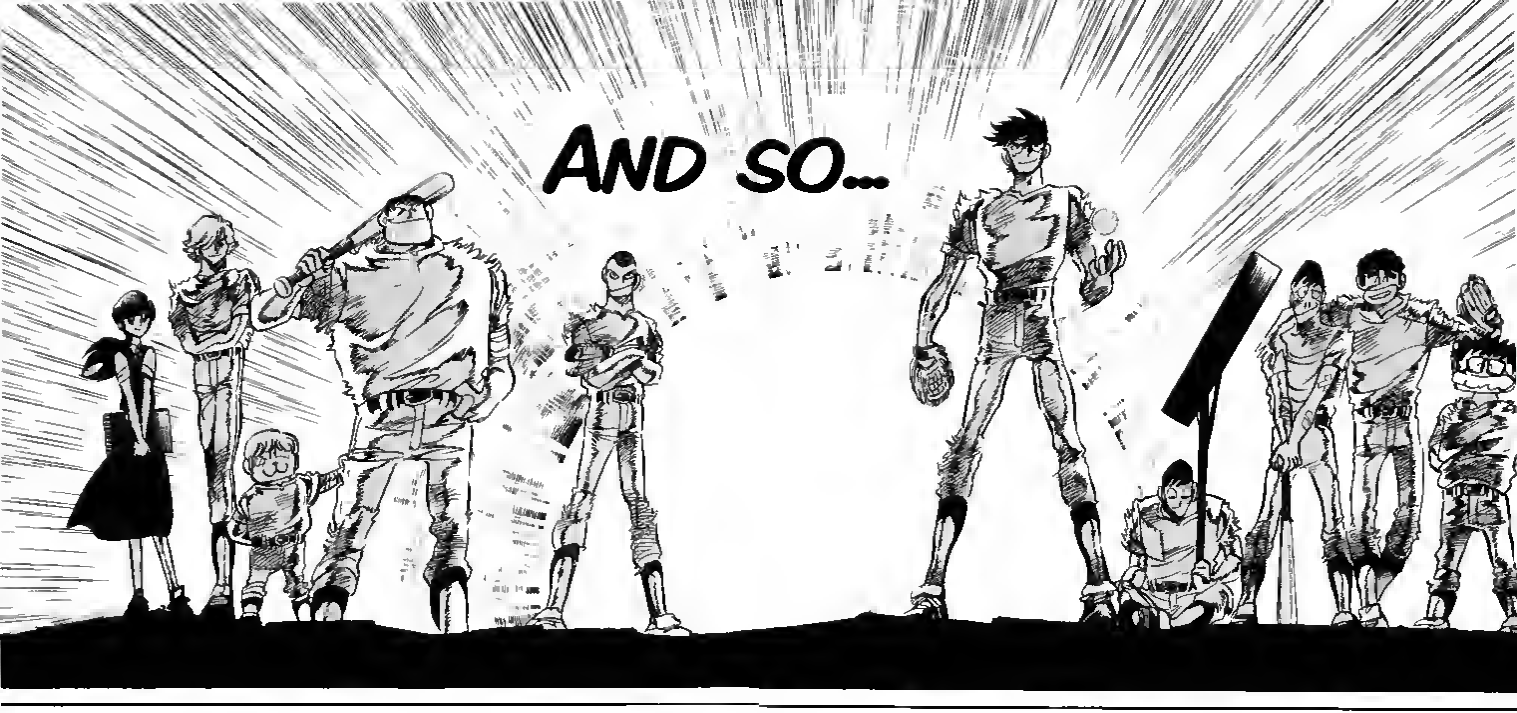
ドドド

FROM THAT DAY ON, THEY PRACTICED THREE TIMES AS MUCH AS USUAL!

ORA
ORA
ORA
FIGHT
FIGHT
FIGHT

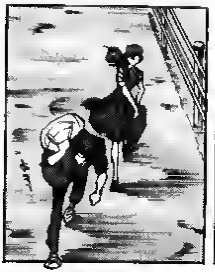
COME ON, STAND UP!
THERE'S STILL 0.5 MORE TO 3 TIMES!
TSUKITA, HOW MANY TIMES IS THIS?
NOT DONE YET!
IT'S 2.5 TIMES THE USUAL!

YEAH !!
THREE TIMES THE USUAL!
THAT'S NO GOOD!



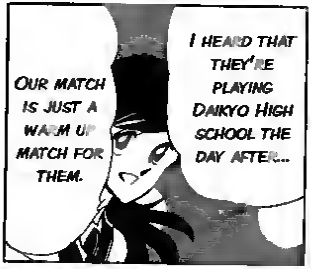
THREE DAYS BEFORE THE MATCH!!

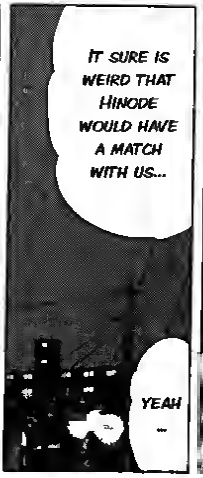
You okay? It's because you worked so much all of a sudden.
This is nothing.



Everyone has also done well.
Yeah..
It's because you are doing everything you can do!

I actually feel great right now


Our match is just a warm up match for them.
I heard that they're playing Daikyo High school the day after...


It sure is weird that Hinode would have a match with us...
Yeah..

A warm up match -

IT WON'T BE SO EASY FOR THEM!!

WHAT?
W-
WHAT'S WRONG, YAMASHITA?
YES, IT'S FUKUTSU.
THE SOLDERING PEN BURNT YOUR HAND WHILE YOU WERE FIXING YOUR RADIO!?
じゅうう
ギャー
THEN WE CAN'T HAVE ANY BALLS FLYING TO THE RIGHT FIELD!
THEN WHAT ABOUT BASE-BALL!?
YOU CAN ONLY CATCH THE BALL?
天才
THEN --

WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH ME?
BUT...
WHAT?
THAT'S TOO BAD.
WHAT... YOU FAILED YOUR ENGLISH TEST?
OH, MINAMI!
YES IT'S FUKUTSU.
MINAMI
HOLD IT, MINAMI!
H-HEY!
THE RE-TEST IS ON THE SAME DAY AS THE MATCH?
.....
YOU GOT DUMPED...
AND DON'T FEEL LIKE PLAYING!?
WHAT!? YOUR BOSS FORCED YOU TO WORK ON THAT DAY, NO MATTER WHAT?
WHAT!? A BIG DOG BIT YOU!?

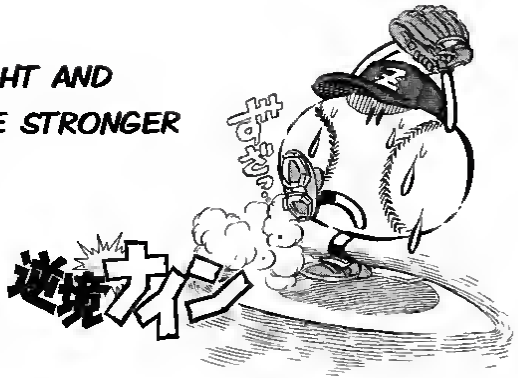
YOU DID YOUR BEST.
THAT'S IT, FUKUTSU...
.....
THAT'S TOO BAD.
UWAHA HAHAHA HAHAHA!

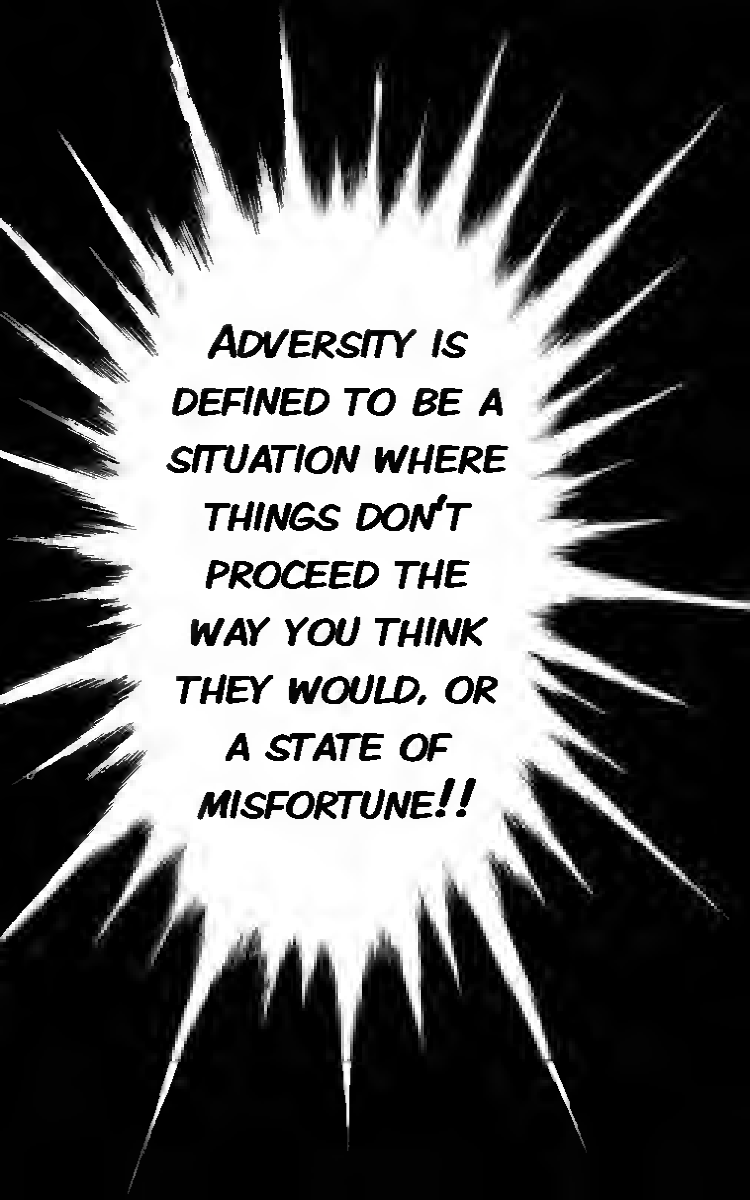
I STILL HAVE MY LEFT ARM!
WHAT IS THIS GUY!?
W-

He still thinks he can win!?
This is usually where the person would cling onto me and say things like, "We can't do it!", or, "Please give us more time!"
This man!
His name is determination!!
A man who can make your dreams come true with his indomitable determination!?
Is it because he is the main character!?
Yes!!

FUKUTSU = INDOMITABLE, TOSHI = DETERMINATION

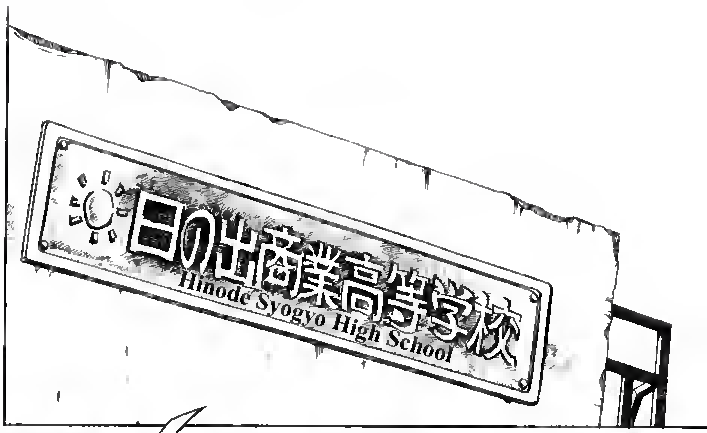
FIGHT AND
BECOME STRONGER

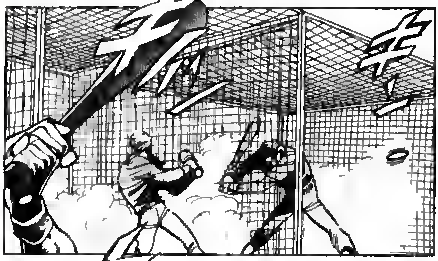



ADVERSITY IS DEFINED TO BE A SITUATION WHERE THINGS DON'T PROCEED THE WAY YOU THINK THEY WOULD, OR A STATE OF MISFORTUNE!!

SEVEN STAR STORIES
TRANS RIAS
PROOF EVOARIS, G
EDITS CRINALE

CHAPTER 2
COMPLETE VICTORY


日の出商業高等学校
Hinode Syogyo High School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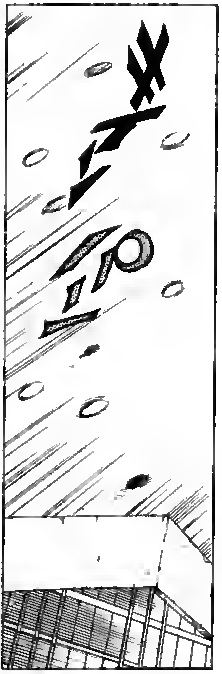
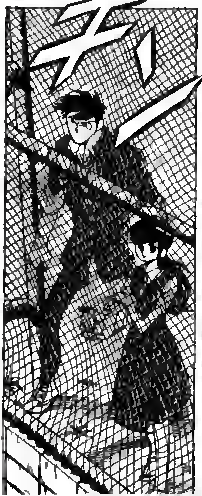

ズバーン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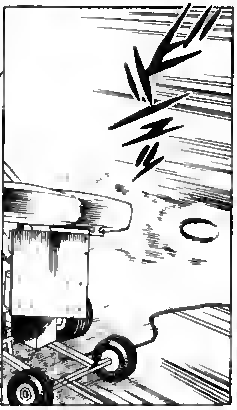
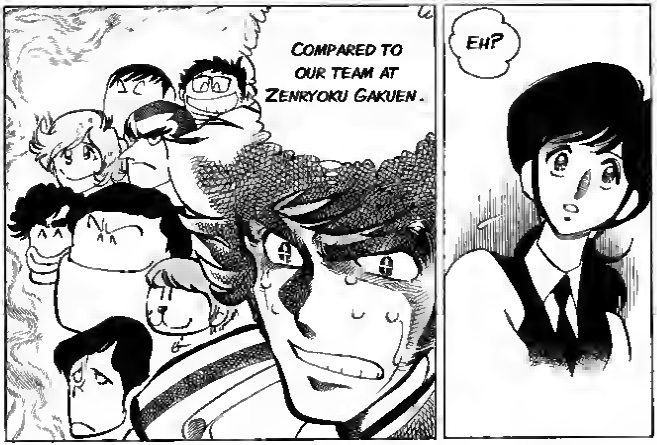

ドッ

W... WOW...
SO THIS IS ONE OF KOSHIEN'S REGULARS, HINODESYO...
.....
SUCH SKILL!
DASH!
SUCH SPEED!
OH

バシッ!!
YES!
DIVE!
YES SIR!
IDIOT! IF YOU KEEP PLAYING LIKE THAT YOU'LL GO BACK TO BEING A BENCH WARMER!
IF YOU SLACK OFF, YOU'LL GET CUT! EVEN IF YOU'RE A REGULAR!
WE HAVE A LOT OF PLAYERS!
LISTEN UP!
YES SIR!
ALRIGHT, THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

SCARY!!
NOT ONLY THAT..
BUT THEY HAVE SO MANY MEMBERS!
NO WAY..
THIS IS HINODESYO..


COMPARED TO OUR TEAM AT ZENRYOKU GAKUEN.
EH?

2B – KOBAYASHI

HAND WAS BITTEN BY A DOG. INJURED. PLAYING IS IMPOSSIBLE.

SS – SHINYASHIKI

DUMPED BY A GIRL. FELL INTO A DAZE. FIGHTING SPIRIT LOST ZERO MOTIVATION. PLAYING IS IMPOSSIBLE.

3B – MINAMI

HAS TO ATTEND A TUTORIAL SESSION ON THE DAY OF THE MATCH DUE TO FAILING HIS ENGLISH EXAM. CANNOT ATTEND THE MATCH

RF – YAMASHITA

BURNED HIS HAND WITH A SOLDERING IRON WHILE TRYING TO FIX HIS RADIO. PLAYING IS IMPOSSIBLE.

LF – FURUYA

ALIVE AND WELL.

C – OOISHI

ALIVE AND WELL.

1B – GOTOU

ALIVE AND WELL.

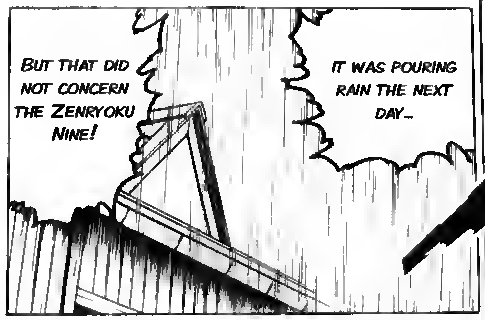
CF – YOKOYAMA

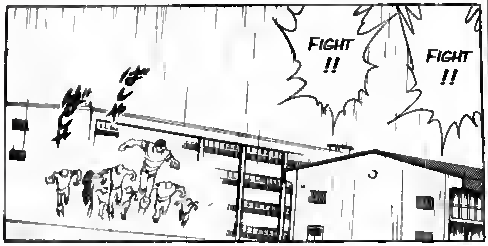
HAS TO WORK ON THE DAY OF THE MATCH. CANNOT ATTEND THE MATCH.

TSUKITA!
C'MON! STAY POSITIVE, CAPTAIN FUKUTSU!
BUT THERE'RE ONLY 4 OF US WHO CAN STILL FIGHT...
SOME CLASSMATES ...
DON'T WORRY! WE CAN JUST GATHER SOME FREE CLASSMATES TO FILL IN FOR THE MISSING MEMBERS!
CLASSMATES WHO ARE FREE... KU... FUFUFU...
THIS HINODESYO AGAINST...
OK
SURE
CLASSMATES WHO HAPPEN TO BE FREE...
!!
THIS HINODESYO AGAINST...

CAPTAIN ...
.....
FIGHT ON!
CAPTAIN FUKUTSU..
STARS —

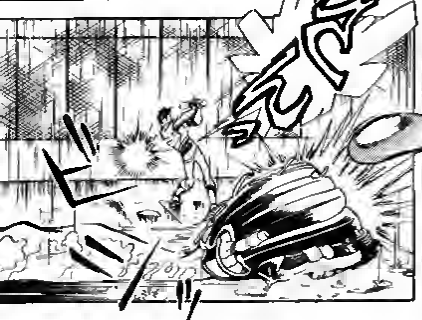
RIGHT NOW, SOMEWHERE IN THIS UNIVERSE...
THERE'S PROBABLY SOME INTERSTELLAR WAR GOING ON THAT WILL DETERMINE THE FATE OF A PLANET...
BASEBALL !!
COMPARED TO THAT...
WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE...?
OH UNIVERSE?
NOT YET...!!
NOT YET...


IT WAS POURING RAIN THE NEXT DAY...
BUT THAT DID NOT CONCERN THE ZENRYOKU NINE!


FIGHT !!
FIGHT !!

DON'T GET DE-PRESSED!
IT MIGHT RAIN ON THE DAY OF THE MATCH TOO!
PUT YOUR SPIRIT INTO IT!

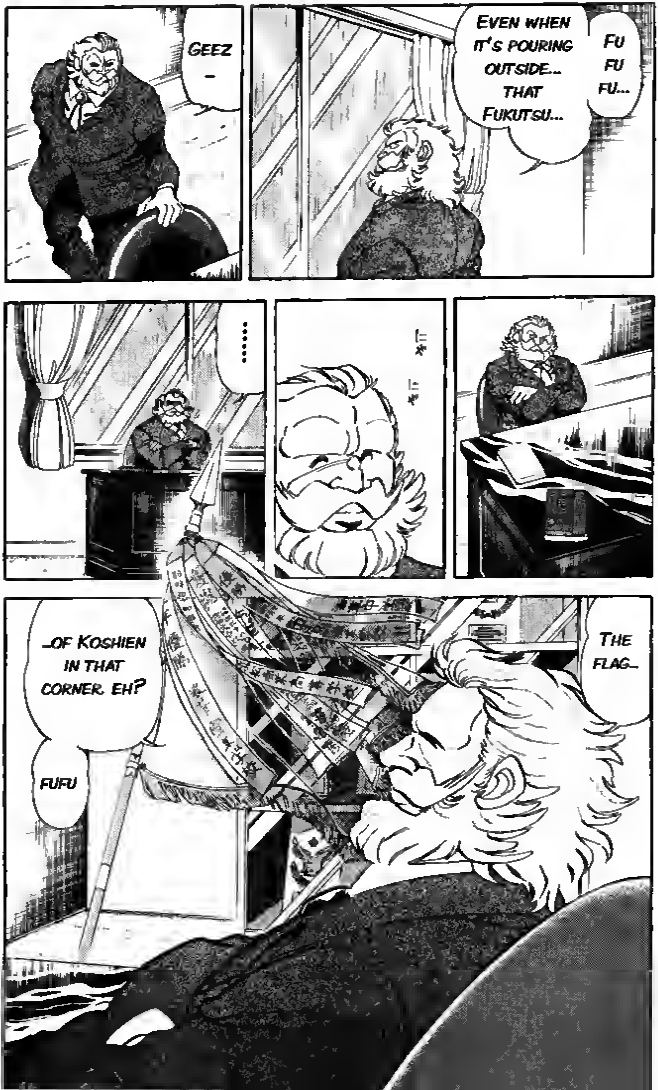
ううう!!


ドド

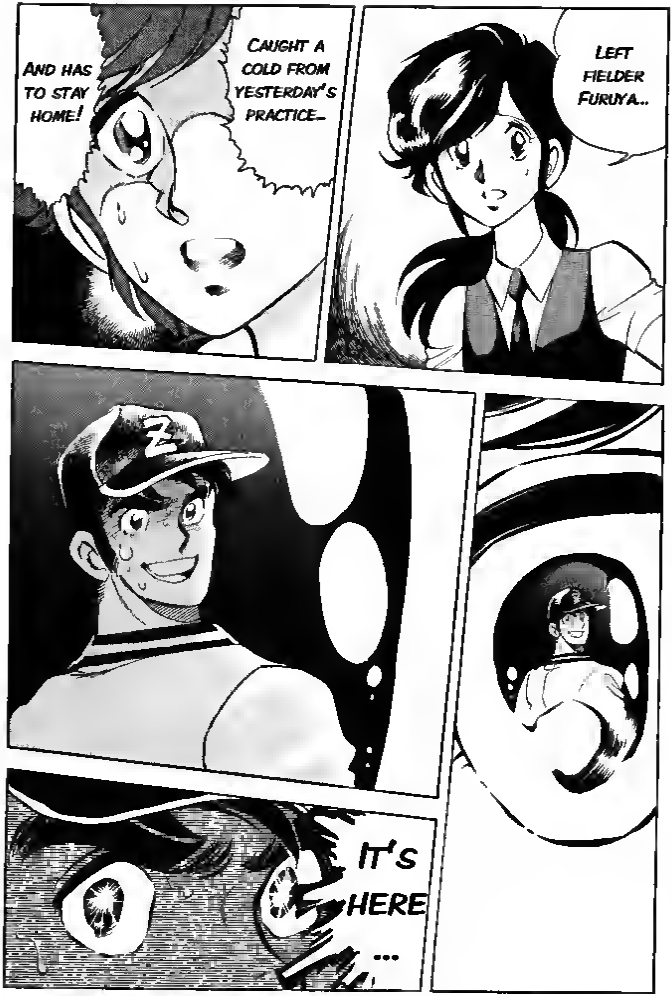
Against our team made of 4 regulars and 5 fill-ins... we still have to win!
Facing a team that is many times faster and more skillful...
キン

Anyway, we can't be careless just because it's raining...

TO PROTECT THE ZENRYOKU HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM...!!
……


GEEZ
EVEN WHEN IT'S POURING OUTSIDE... THAT FUKUTSU...
FU FU FU...
.....
...OF KOSHIEN IN THAT CORNER. EH?
FUFU
THE FLAG...

WE CAN DO IT...
WE WILL DO IT...!!
TWO MORE DAYS UNTIL THE MATCH...
CAPTAIN !!
JUST YOU WATCH, HINODESYO!
WITH THE GUTS THEY SHOWED BY ENDURING THE PRACTICE IN THE POURING RAIN YESTERDAY...
AND EVEN WITH ONLY 4 REGULARS, WE CAN BEAT THEM!


AND HAS TO STAY HOME!
CAUGHT A COLD FROM YESTERDAY'S PRACTICE...
LEFT FIELDER FURUYA...
IT'S HERE...

ネガピン
THIS IS IT!
THIS IS ADVERSITY!!

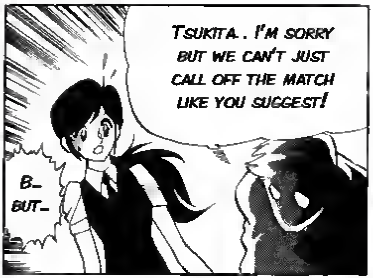
OK!
HEY WHY ARE YOU COVERING YOUR FACE?
WE'LL GO... VI-VI-VISIT HIM AFTER THE MATCH...
DON'T WORRY...
CAP-TAIN!
DO-DO-DO-DON...
?
"TO CAPTAIN FUKUTSU..."
IT'S FROM FIRST BASEMAN GOTOU...
OH, WHAT'S THIS?
.....
.....
.....
"I CAN NO LONGER FOLLOW..."

KEEP READING...
WHAT'S WRONG...
N... NO! NO!!
READ!! READ IT FOR ME
WHAT A CRUEL THING TO DO, TO JUST READ IT PARTWAY AND STOP!
TSUKITA !!
.....
.....
IT'S TOO SAD FOR YOU, CAPTAIN!
NO!!
I CAN ALREADY TELL WHAT IT'S ABOUT...
SO DON'T TORTURE ME ANYMORE...

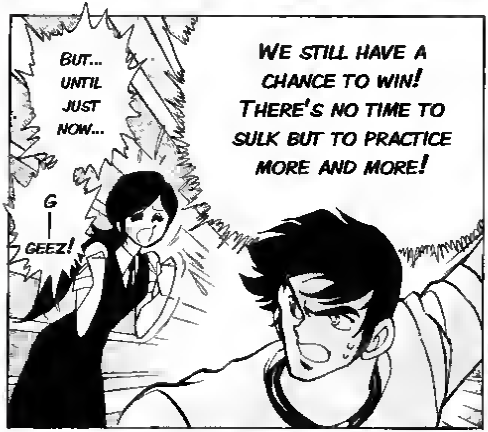
AHH!
SO IT IS ABOUT THAT!
SO IT IS THAT!
全力
CAP-TAIN!
UAAAH!!
うわあああっ!!
READING IT WOULD PROBABLY EASE HIS PAIN...
READ IT FOR HIM, AKIKO!!
THAT'S RIGHT AKIKO !!
EVEN SO...
WHATEVER IS WRITTEN IN THAT LETTER MIGHT DRIVE HIM DEEPER INTO DESPAIR...!!
CAPTAIN IS IN PAIN!

"I can no longer follow you, Captain. I'm not going to show up for a while. Regards, First Baseman Gotou."
He's not going to show up for a while!?
No way!
The golden southpaw...!!
You still have that left arm, right?
Captain!

ONLY MY LEFT ARM!!
THAT'S ALL I HAVE LEFT..!!
.....
THAT'S -
YES. YOUR LEFT ARM!!
LEFT ARM...
.....
IN FACT, IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO START WITH!!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GO ON...
LET'S JUST CALL OFF THE MATCH...
YOU'VE DONE ALL YOU CAN...
THAT'S ENOUGH..
CAPTAIN... IT'S ALRIGHT..
THERE'S NO SUCH THING!
!?
IMPOSSIBLE?
YES!
.....
.....


TSUKITA. I'M SORRY BUT WE CAN'T JUST CALL OFF THE MATCH LIKE YOU SUGGEST!
B-BUT-

THOSE GUYS FROM HINODESYO AREN'T GODS OR ANYTHING...
THEY'RE HUMANS, JUST LIKE US!!


BUT... UNTIL JUST NOW...
G— GEEZ!
WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN! THERE'S NO TIME TO SULK BUT TO PRACTICE MORE AND MORE!

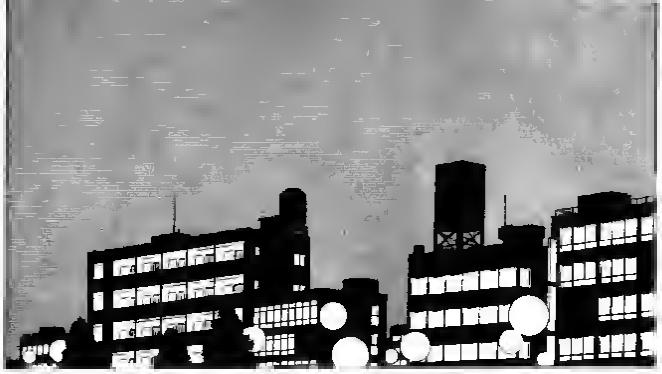
I STILL HAVE THIS LEFT ARM OF MINE!

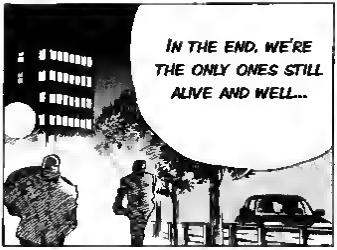
HE'S JUST LIKE A KID...
GEEZ...
MY MOTIVATION IS BACK-!!
ALL RIGHT- LET'S DO IT!
ガチャ!!
ガッチャ!
ガッチャ…

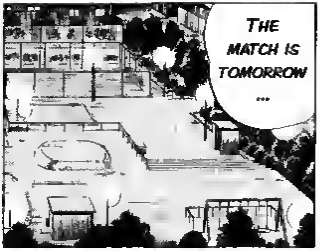
A QUESTION FOR BASEBALL TEAM CAPTAIN FUKUTSU.
IT SEEMS THAT YOUR TEAM IS LOSING MEMBERS...
OH?
I'M HERE FROM THE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER!
I ALREADY KNOW IT'S UNREASONABLE!!
IS THAT DUE TO THE UNREASONABLE PRACTICE SESSIONS?
IT'S THE THREE RULES...
BUT I'M NOT BEING UNREASONABLE WITH THEM!
DOES A CAPTAIN HAVE THE RIGHT TO FORCE HIS TEAMMATES LIKE THAT?

Rules ?
There are three rules to being a man that are never unreasonable for us to follow!
And those rules are...!?
One !!
For a man...
When it's time to go, we go!
Two !!
Right now...
It's time to go!!

AND THREE !!
I AM...
WE ARE --
MEN !!




In the end, we're the only ones still alive and well....


The match is tomorrow ...

And since only you and I are the batters...
We must gamble everything on those 2 hits!

Either I must strike out all the batters...
Or get them to pop out to you or me.
That's the only way...!!

In order to win with just the two of us...

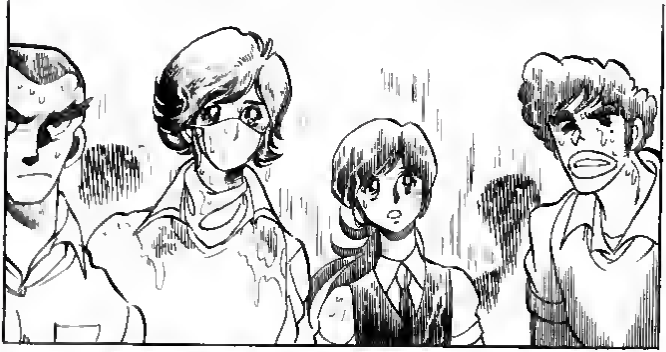
WALKING ON A TIGHTROPE ...
IT'S ALMOST LIKE...
BUT...
WE'LL MAKE IT ACROSS!
A THIN ONE TOO...
YEAH ...
FOR TOMORROW ...
I GET IT, I GET IT. LET'S JUST GO TO SLEEP.
AND OBTAIN VICTORY!
GOOD NIGHT.

Hinode Syogyo is playing Daikyo High school the day after, so they're just using our match as a warm up.
Damn -
.....
You are the only thing left that I can count on...
Even if it's a warm up for them, I'm not going to let the team get cancelled!!
I'm counting on you, my left arm...!!

ぶぶぶ
HMM
HMM
SEIKO
TOILET
TOILET…
んがあぁ…

ふぅ…
GUWAH!!

HE BROKE HIS LEFT ARM!?
CAP-TAIN..
W..
WHAT !?
TODAY'S MATCH...
CAPTAIN !!
CAP-TAIN!!
FU-KUT-SU!!

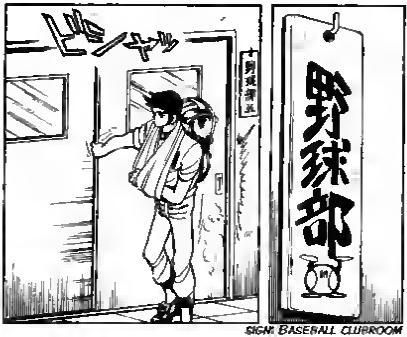


おお
VICTORY
!!

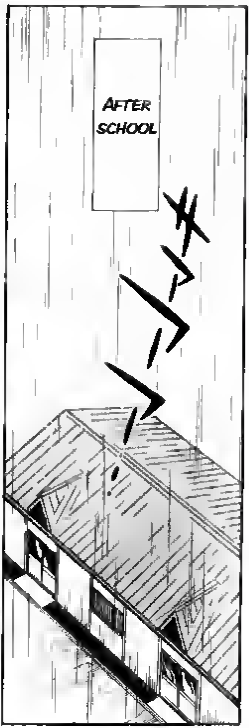
WHO CARES ABOUT BURNS!
じゅっ!
THIS HAND -
……
……
じゅわ
じゅわ
じゅわ
……
GIRLS -
ビビビ
WHO CARES ABOUT GIRLS!
GIRLS…
ONE OR TWO...
ONE OR TWO FAILING MARKS...
AH…

TUTO-RIALS!
WHO CARES ABOUT-
HEY... IS IT TRUE THAT WE CAN JUST HAND IN A REPORT INSTEAD OF ATTENDING THE TUTORIAL?
YEAH, THAT'S WHAT THE TEACHER SAID.
AH- WA... WAIT...!
HUH? I DON'T HAVE TO COME?
NO MATTER WHAT!
I CAN'T COME TO WORK TODAY...
HELLO, MANAGER?
(SOB)
WHO CARES !!
.....
WHO CARES ABOUT A COLD!
WHO CARES ABOUT BEING BITTEN BY A DOG!!

EVERY-ONE...
IF WE FORSAKE FUKUTSU TODAY... THEN WE AREN'T MEN ANYMORE...
TODAY'S MATCH...
WE WILL BET OUR LIVES AND FOLLOW THE CAPTAIN!!
オウ
YEAH!!



SIGN: BASEBALL CLUBROOM

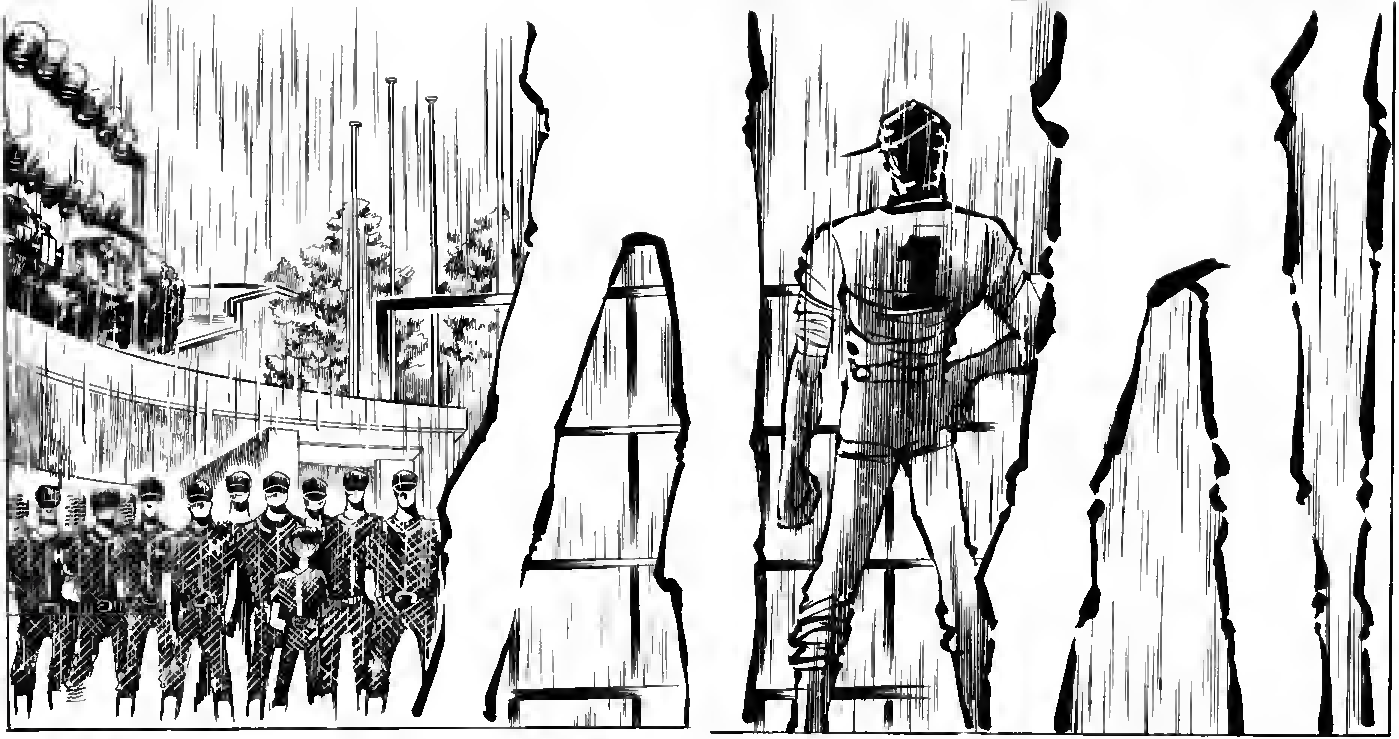


全力
全力
全力
全力
EVERYONE...!
GOOD... LET'S GO, EVERYONE!!
YEAH !
CAPTAIN!
LET'S GO...
TO VICTORY !

RIGHT NOW, ZENRYOKU GAKUEN NINE HAVE BECOME ONE, AND ARE ON THE PATH TO DEFEAT HINODESYO!
EVEN THOUGH IT'S RAINING OUTSIDE, THE SUN SHINES INSIDE FUKUTSU'S HEART!!
全力
全

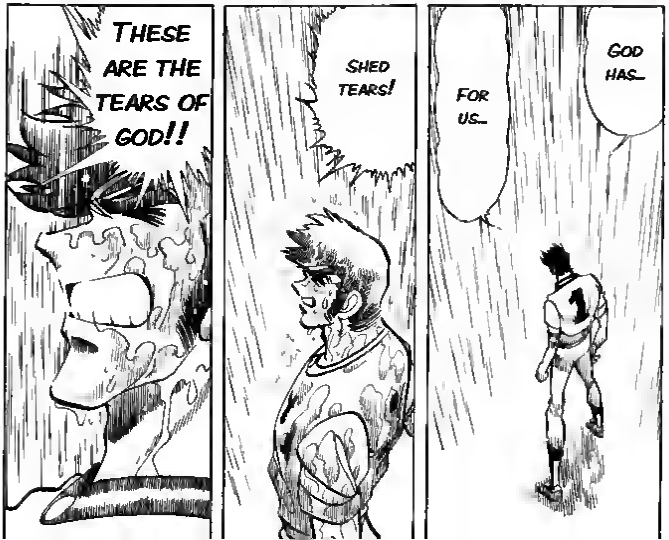
NOW JUST SHOW ME THE FATE OF THE BASEBALL TEAM!!
YOU HAVE DONE WELL TO GET HERE!!

GO OUT AND GET IT!
DO IT!! FUKUTSU!


I'M HINODESYO'S CAPTAIN. TAKADA.
I'M ZENRYOKU GAKUEN'S CAPTAIN. FUKUTSU!!
WE ONLY ACCEPTED YOUR CHALLENGE SO THAT WE COULD PREPARE FOR OUR MATCH TOMORROW.
FU-KUT-SU!!
BUT IN RAIN LIKE THIS...
I'M SORRY TO SAY THIS, BUT TO US, TOMORROW'S MATCH IS MORE IMPORTANT!
.....
SO WE ARE HERE TO REFUSE YOUR MATCH!
WE WILL LET YOU WIN BY DEFAULT.
THAT IS ALL!

ザーッ
全力
WE
WON..
WE..
全力
EVEN
SO..
WE
HAVE
WON!!
HA
HAHA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA

WE DID IT!
やったあうぉあっ
ははは
HAHAHA
ばんざーい
BANZAI
YEAH!
ほーい


GOD HAS...
FOR US...
SHED TEARS!
THESE ARE THE TEARS OF GOD!!

You have taught us well!!
Thank you!! Thank you, Gyakkyou Nine!!
Zenryoku Gakuen has won!!
To keep fighting and not be taken in by despair!!
Even with your battered bodies, you have taken a win from the veterans of Hinodesyo!!

AFTER ALL, YOU DID PROMISE ME THE CHAMPIONSHIP FLAG!
I WON'T ADMIT A VICTORY LIKE THIS!
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED... I'LL DELAY THE CANCELLATION.
BUT...
THE MOMENT YOUR POSSIBILITIES BECOME ZERO, SO WILL YOUR TEAM...
FIGHT ON, FUKUTSU!! FIGHT ON, GYAKKYOU NINE!!
うおおっ
ヒャッホウ
THE CHALLENGES ARE ONLY STARTING...

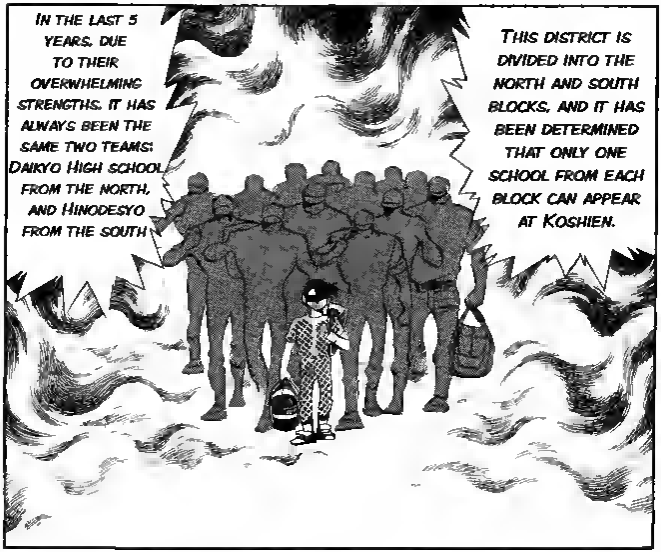
CHAPTER 13

DON'T GIVE UP ON YOUR DREAMS

SEVEN STAR STORIES
TRANS: RIAS
PROOFS: G, EVOARIS
EDITS: CRINALE
HTTP://SEVENSTARSTORIES.BLOGSPOT.COM/

15TH
RUN!
クリーン
モデル

ザワ
ザワ
ザワ

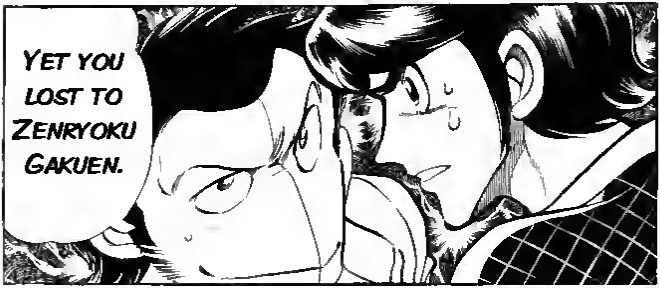

In the last 5 years, due to their overwhelming strengths, it has always been the same two teams: Daikyo High school from the north, and Hinodesyo from the south
This district is divided into the north and south blocks, and it has been determined that only one school from each block can appear at Koshien.

OUR AIM WILL BE FINAL 4 AT KOSHIEN!
オオッ
THIS YEAR IS GOING TO BE DIFFERENT...
WE'VE JUST CRUSHED THE CHAMPIONS OF THE NORTH WITH EASE...

2
3
7
10
4
5

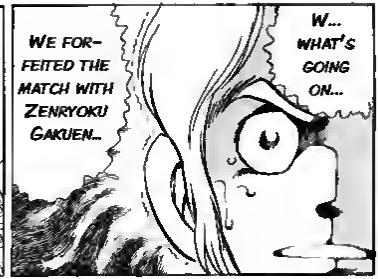
HEY——!!
WHY AREN'T THE NEWSPAPER OR THE BROADCASTING CLUBS OUT HERE TO GREET US?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WEIRD—
WE'VE BEATEN DAIKYO HIGH SCHOOL!!
HEY——!!
IT SURE IS LONELY WHEN THEY'RE NOT AROUND, CAPTAIN!
WHERE'RE THOSE ANNOYING GIRLS WHO'RE ALWAYS SCREAMING AND SHOUTING?
WHY!?

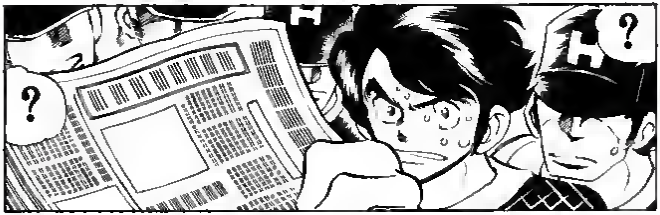
HEY DIRECTOR OOISHI!
WHY DIDN'T YOU GUYS COME GREET US?
SO THERE YOU GUYS ARE!
WE JUST BEAT DAIKYO HIGH SCHOOL!
YOU BEAT DAIKYO...
SIGH NEWSPAPER CLUB


YET YOU LOST TO ZENRYOKU GAKUEN.

.....
LET GO OF ME!
THAT HURTS!

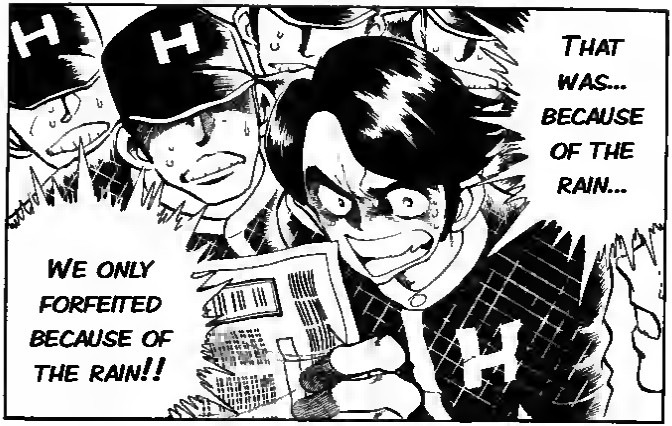
READ HERE.
THE WORD'S SPREADING AROUND!


WE FORFEITED THE MATCH WITH ZENRYOKU GAKUEN...
W... WHAT'S GOING ON...


?
?

W.... WHAT !?

WAIT. ISN'T THIS ZENRYOKU GAKUEN'S NEWSPAPER?
ZENRYOKU NEWS
HUGE WIN 9 to 0
ZENRYOKU GAKUEN NINE CELEBRATING
Hinodesyo didn't even


THAT WAS... BECAUSE OF THE RAIN...
WE ONLY FORFEITED BECAUSE OF THE RAIN!!

WHY ARE THEY ALL SO HAPPY!?
OKU GAKUEN NINE CELEBRATING

WHAT "HUGE WIN"!?
A... AND...

ZENRYOKU
GAKUEN
HIGH
SCHOOL

REALLY GREAT!
SO WONDERFUL!
THEY BEAT THAT HINODESYO!
AREN'T THEY GREAT?
GO TO KOSHIEN!

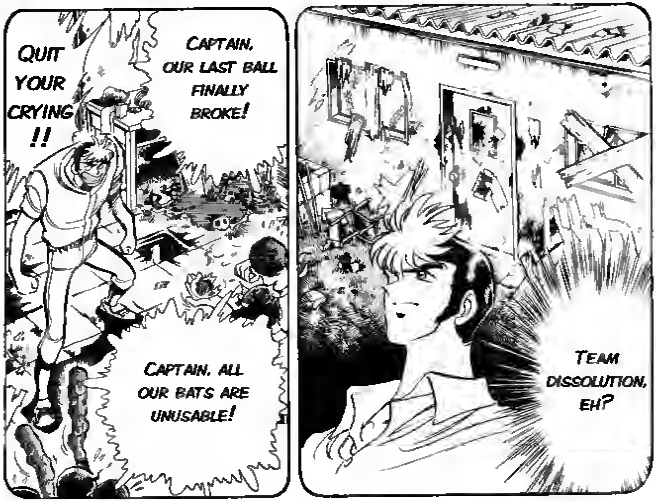
RIGHT.
THEY SURE ARE POPULAR!
THEY JUST WON BY DEFAULT.
HOWEVER... THEY DIDN'T ACTUALLY BEAT HINODESYO WITH THEIR SKILLS.
!?
IT DOESN'T SEEM ANYTHING HAS CHANGED INSIDE THEM DESPITE THE RISE IN POPULARITY.
MAYBE THEY REALLY WOULD HAVE HAVE WON..
IF THEY HAD ACTUALLY PLAYED...
IS THAT SO?

HMPH!
THAT'S ABSURD...
PEOPLE CAN ONLY DREAM AT NIGHT, MR. PRINCIPAL...

キーコ
キーコ
OH, AKKO!
SORRY FOR THE WAIT!
.....
.....
SORRY FOR CALLING YOU OUT ALL OF A SUDDEN.
NO PROBLEM.
SO WHAT'S UP?
WELL LET'S START WITH THE SMALL TALK FIRST, SHALL WE?
SURE.
I HEARD...
ABOUT YOUR BASEBALL TEAM...

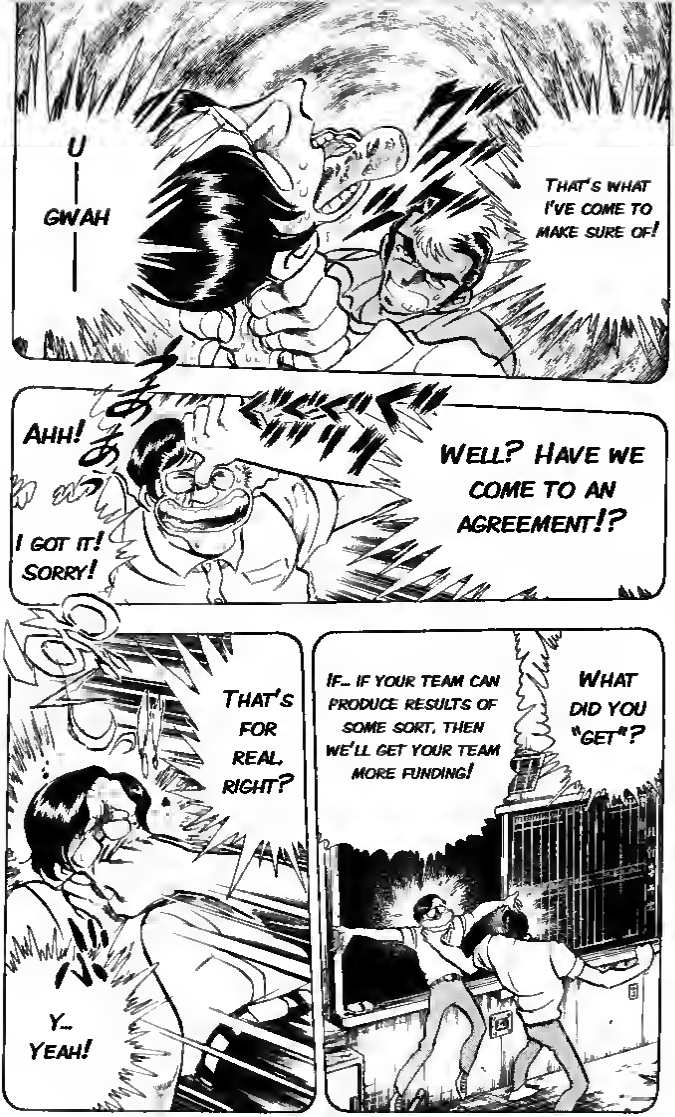
YOU GUYS BEAT HINODESYO.
OH, ABOUT THAT...
IT'S ACTUALLY JUST A WIN BY DEFAULT.
WHAT? THAT'S WHAT IT REALLY WAS?
YEP!
EVERYONE IS JUST MAKING A BIG DEAL OUT OF IT.
THE CAPTAIN HAD BROKEN HIS ARM! AND ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS WERE IN A BATTERED STATE...!!

A SITUATION THAT'S ALL TOO FAMILIAR...
TEAM DISSO-LUTION..
THE CAPTAIN SAID THAT IT WAS THE TEARS OF GOD!
WE WERE SAVED!
...IF IT HADN'T RAINED THAT DAY, THE TEAM WOULD PROBABLY BE DISSOLVED BY NOW.


QUIT YOUR CRYING!!
CAPTAIN, OUR LAST BALL FINALLY BROKE!
CAPTAIN, ALL OUR BATS ARE UNUSABLE!
TEAM DISSOLUTION, EH?

Sign: Student Council
生徒会室
To the student council's office.
Captain, where are you going?
Can we keep crying until you come back?
What ever!
.....
I hate to say this, but the principle also wanted the cut.
There's no budget for teams that have no results or prospects.

WAAH!!
U..
GWAH...
GIVE US MORE FUNDING!
THE DAY CALLED TODAY IS THE DAY I GET SOME POSITIVE RESPONSE!
S. STOP IT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
YOU THINK I'M JUST AN ERRAND BOY THAT WOULD SAY "OH I SEE" AND LEAVE!?
I'LL ONLY DO IT IF OUR INTERESTS MEET!
I'M NOT BOWING DOWN TO VIOLENCE!


U—
GWAH
THAT'S WHAT I'VE COME TO MAKE SURE OF!
AHH!
I GOT IT! SORRY!
WELL? HAVE WE COME TO AN AGREEMENT!?
THAT'S FOR REAL, RIGHT?
Y... YEAH!
IF... IF YOUR TEAM CAN PRODUCE RESULTS OF SOME SORT, THEN WE'LL GET YOUR TEAM MORE FUNDING!
WHAT DID YOU "GET"?

逆境ナイン1

MOST TEAMS ARE TOO STRONG FOR US...
BUT IT'S HARD TO GET RESULTS.
OH MY...
OR ELSE...
WAIT A SECOND!
UFUFU
I WAS THINKING WE COULD AT LEAST BEAT AKKO'S TEAM.
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, OUR TEAM IS WEAK.
AKKO!!
YES?
THEN WE WOULD'VE BEATEN THE TEAM THAT HAD BEATEN HINODESYO...
THIS MIGHT WORK...
WHAT IF WE BEAT ZENRYOKU GAKUEN NOW?

WE WANT TO LEARN FROM THE TEAM THAT HAS BEATEN HINODESYO.
PLEASE!
YEAH.
PRAC-TICE MATCH?
.....
.....
.....
..I SEE..
I ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE.

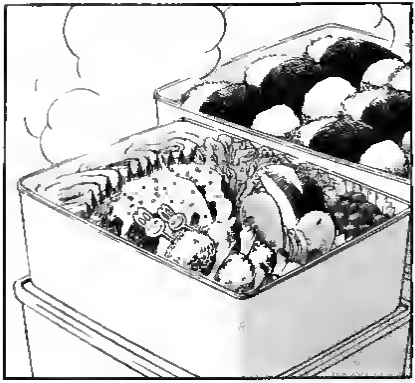
THANKS. AKKO!
THANKS TO YOU, OUR TEAM MAY HAVE A CHANCE AFTER ALL!
RYO!!
IN THE END I'M STILL IN YOUR CARE...
.....
I CALLED YOU OUT TODAY ABOUT THAT-
ACTUALLY -
.....
THE END?

TO SOMEWHERE QUITE FAR...
OUR HOUSE...
WE'RE MOVING.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT?
SO YOU'RE SWITCHING SCHOOLS?
WE DON'T HAVE THE MONEY FOR ME TO LIVE ON MY OWN...
SO I WON'T BE GOING TO THE SAME SCHOOL ANYMORE...
YEAH...
...SEEMS I HAVE A LOT TO SAY. SO I'M TURNING OFF THE ENGINE...
IT...
.....

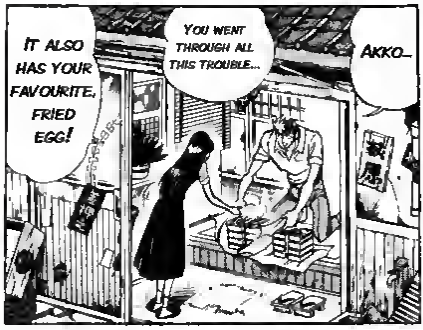
THANKS FOR A LOT OF THINGS...
IT'S BETTER FOR YOU TO FORGET ABOUT ME...
OK?

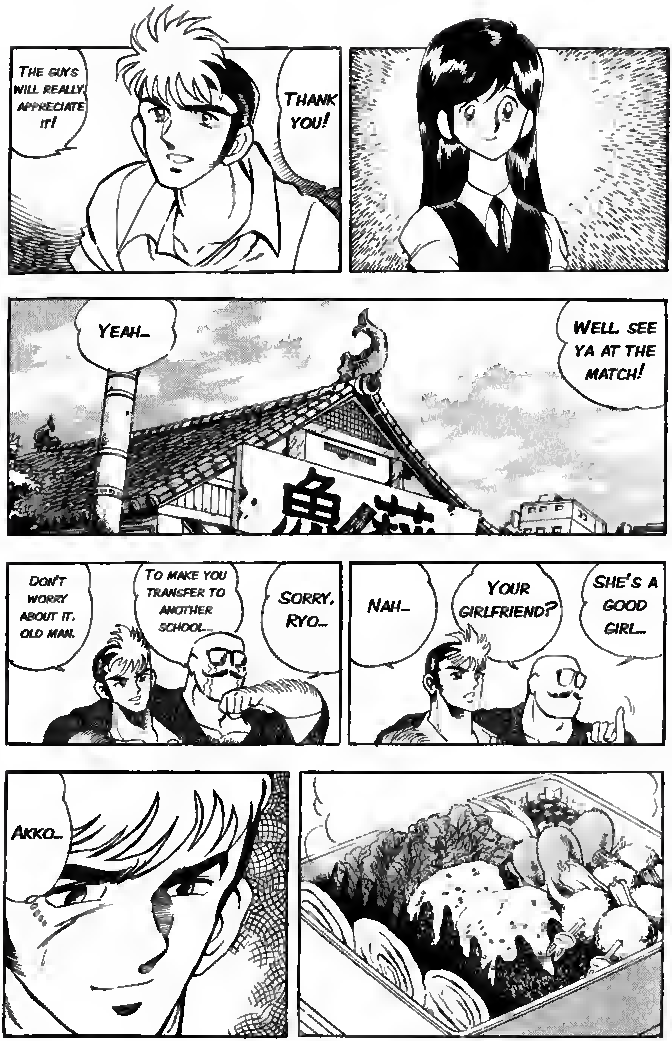
OF COURSE!
ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP PLAYING BASEBALL?
TWO DAYS AFTER WE BEAT YOUR SCHOOL!
WHEN ARE YOU MOVING?
.....
KYA!
CAPTAIN !?
.....

I WAS GOING TO CALL YOU BUT IT SEEMED TO BE SUCH A SERIOUS CONVERSATION, SO AND BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS ALREADY STANDING THERE...
TSUKI-TA-
SORRY... I DIDN'T MEAN TO EAVESDROP!
.....
LOOK, YOU LEFT THIS.
THEN I THOUGHT YOU WOULD'VE HEARD MY FOOTSTEPS IF I LEFT, SO I ENDED UP JUST STANDING THERE LISTENING... BUT I ONLY HEARD THE END PART! HEY! TSUKITA!! HEEEY!!
.....



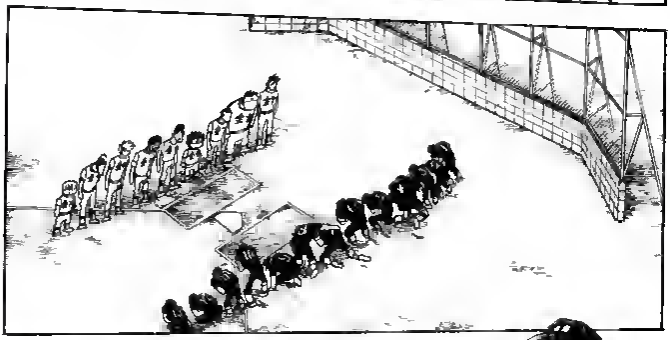
THIS HOMEMADE BENTO LOOKS GREAT DOESN'T IT?
HERE'S THE LAST ONE...


IT ALSO HAS YOUR FAVOURITE, FRIED EGG!
YOU WENT THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE...
AKKO...


THE GUYS WILL REALLY APPRECIATE IT!
THANK YOU!
YEAH...
WELL, SEE YA AT THE MATCH!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, OLD MAN.
TO MAKE YOU TRANSFER TO ANOTHER SCHOOL...
SORRY, RYO...
NAH...
YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
SHE'S A GOOD GIRL...
AKKO...

!?
ドクン
ドクン
ドクン

!?
?



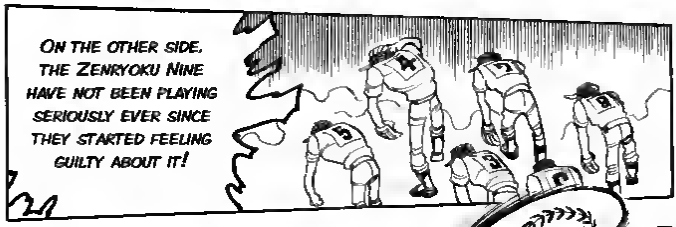
LET'S DO THIS!
NO BIG DEAL...

MUSTA BEEN SOMETHING WE ATE FOR BREAKFAST ...
WE'RE — FINE...

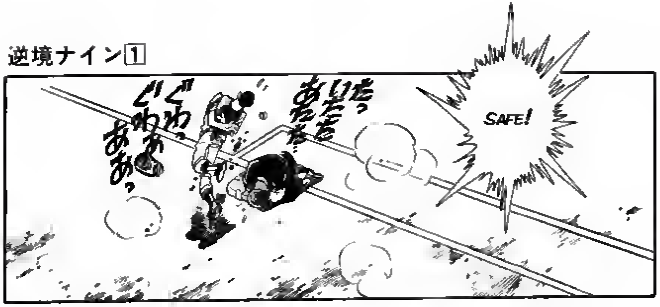
YOU GUYS OK!?
WHAT'S GOING ON!?

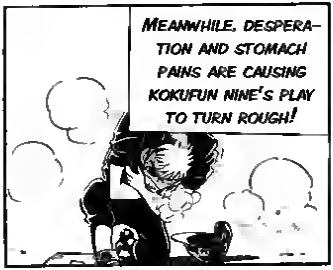
WHAT'S WRONG, MANAGER?
D-
DON'T TELL ME...
K
WHAAAT? YOU ACTUALLY MADE ALL THOSE BENTOS FOR THE GUYS FROM KOKUFUN?
NO... WAIT! IT'S NOT THAT...
EVEN IF YOU MEANT TO DO IT, ISN'T THIS GOING A BIT OVER-BOARD!?
THAT'S NOT IT!!
NOW, NOW... THE MANAGER ONLY RESORTED TO SUCH TRICKS TO GIVE US A BETTER CHANCE!
I SAID THAT'S NOT IT!!!

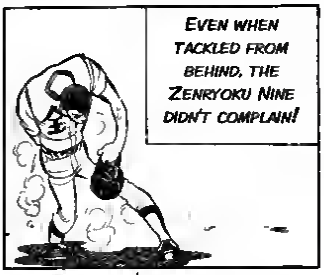
DUE TO MANAGER TSUKITA AKIKO'S STRATEGY, THE PLAYERS FROM KOKUFUN HAVE LOST MOST OF THEIR STRENGTH.


ON THE OTHER SIDE, THE ZENRYOKU NINE HAVE NOT BEEN PLAYING SERIOUSLY EVER SINCE THEY STARTED FEELING GUILTY ABOUT IT!

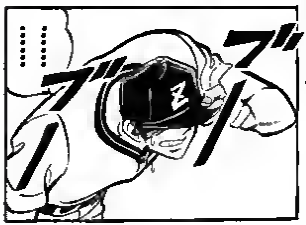
バキッ
GUWAH !!


SAFE!

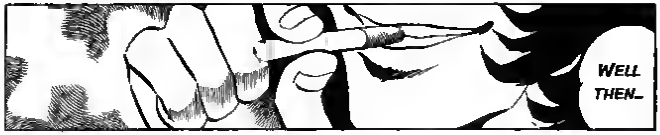

MEANWHILE, DESPERATION AND STOMACH PAINS ARE CAUSING KOKUFUN NINE'S PLAY TO TURN ROUGH!


EVEN WHEN TACKLED FROM BEHIND, THE ZENRYOKU NINE DIDN'T COMPLAIN!

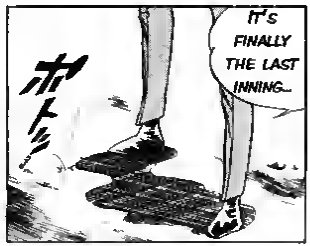
YOU GUYS ARE SLOW!
WHAT'S WITH THIS SHITTY PLAY!?
DID YOU GUYS REALLY BEAT HINODESYO?

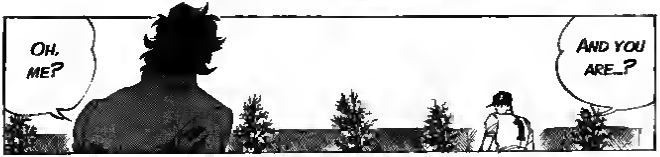


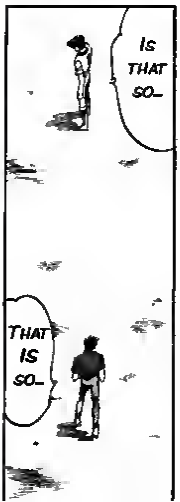
TOKYO ZENKYOKU GAKUEN
SOFT KOUSHIEN
東京都立学園
ソフト甲子園
OK


WELL THEN...

2 TO 1. AS LONG AS YOU CAN KEEP IT THAT WAY, YOU'LL WIN.

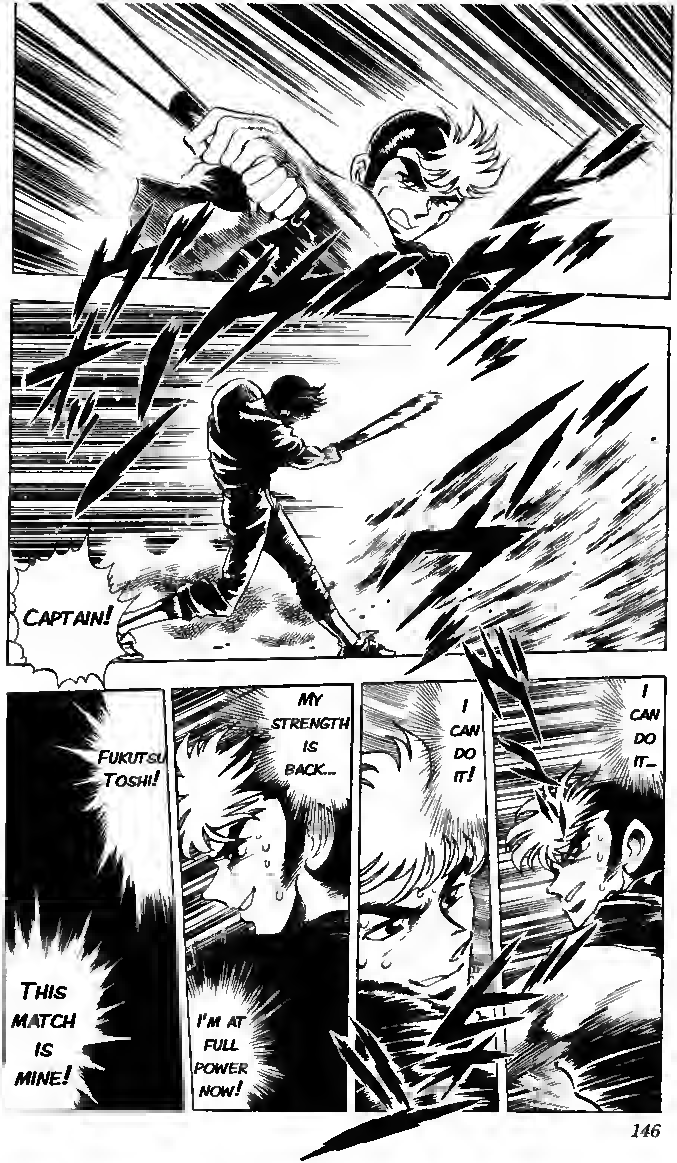

IT'S FINALLY THE LAST INNING...
ボトッ


OH, ME?
AND YOU ARE...?


IS THAT SO...
THAT IS SO...

.....

MY NAME IS SAKAKI-BARA GO.


CAPTAIN!
FUKUTSU TOSHI!
THIS MATCH IS MINE!
MY STRENGTH IS BACK...
I'M AT FULL POWER NOW!
I CAN DO IT!
I CAN DO IT...

BASEBALL FUN FACT! A WALK-OFF HOME RUN IS A HOME RUN THAT ENDS THE GAME.
GOOD OL' WIKIPEDIA'S GOT AN INDEPTH ENTRY @ HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/WALK-OFF_HOME_RUN

SUCH WEAKNESS, FUKUTSU TOSHI!!
HMPH, HIS HEART IS STILL FILLED WITH GUILT FROM THAT BENTO INCIDENT...
I WOULD JUST LAUGH AND STRIKE YOU ALL OUT BEFORE THINKING ABOUT IT!
IF I WERE IN YOU SHOES...
.....
CAPTAIN -
全力
NOW JUST THROW IT! YOUR EYES WILL OPEN WHEN THE MATCH IS OVER!

!!
YOU DUMBASS!! WHAT'RE YOU WAITING FOR!?
DON'T YOU FORGET ABOUT THAT!!
JUST FINISH OFF KOKUFUN ALREADY!!
EVERYONE IN THE WORLD KNOWS ABOUT YOU BEATING US FAIR AND SQUARE!
HINODE-SYO'S CAPTAIN, TAKADA!

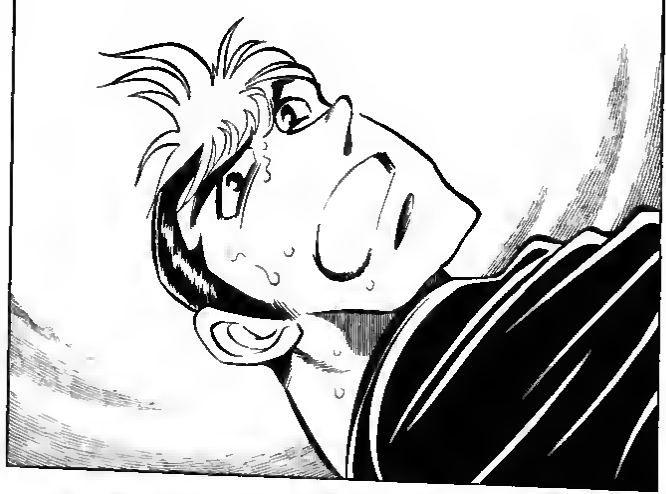
THAT'S RIGHT...
...WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT!
THE BENTO...
I UNDER-STAND, BUT...
I UNDER-STAND -
IF WE DON'T WIN HERE...
WE WOULD BE TRAMPLING ON HINODESYO'S REPUTATION!
DAMMIT!
YA DAMN RIGHT YOU WILL!

FU KUT SU!
I'M GOING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING GREAT...
ENGRAVE THESE WORDS INTO YOUR HEART AND PITCH!
.....

"THAT
IS
THAT"!

"...AND THIS IS THIS"!!
THAT'S RIGHT!
THAT'S -

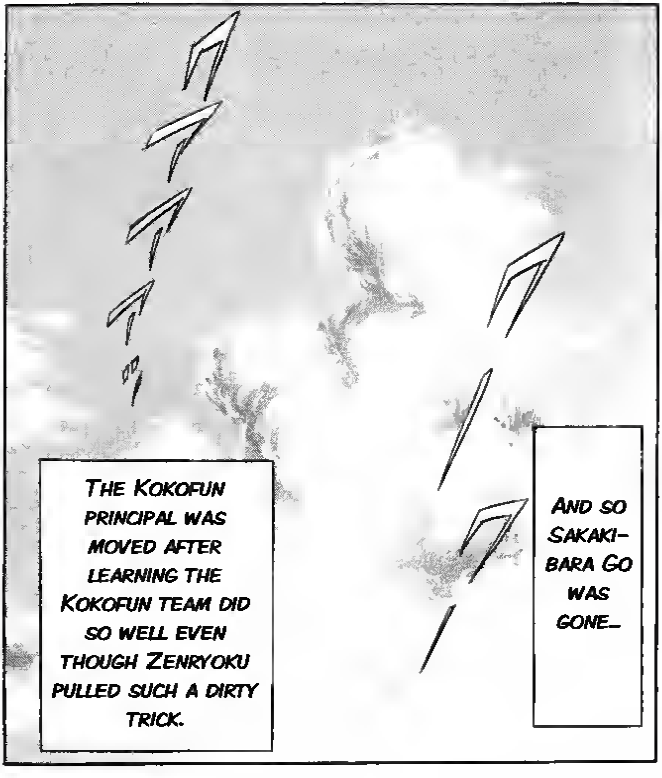
STRIKE THREE! YOU'RE OUT!



THAT...

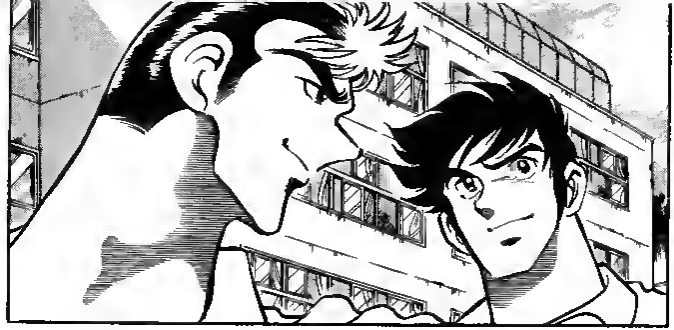
I'VE LOST. FUKUTSU ...
THAT WAS ONE NICE PITCH...

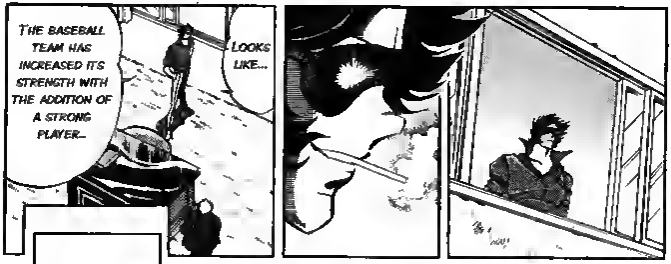
I'VE COMPLETELY LOST...


THE KOKOFUN PRINCIPAL WAS MOVED AFTER LEARNING THE KOKOFUN TEAM DID SO WELL EVEN THOUGH ZENRYOKU PULLED SUCH A DIRTY TRICK.
AND SO SAKAKIBARA GO WAS GONE...
AND SO...
SO, HE DECIDED TO INCREASE THE FUNDING FOR THE BASEBALL TEAM.

THE MANAGER'S USUAL SMILING FACE HAS FINALLY RETURNED.
ﾔｯﾎﾟｰ
.....
LET ME INTRODUCE A NEW TRANSFER STUDENT...
STAND UP PLEASE.

WHO JUST FELL OVER!?
YOU OK!?
WHAT'S WRONG?
IT'S TSUKITA!!
PFT!
WHAT IS SHE SO UPSET ABOUT?
HE.. HEY! AKKO!
HAHAHA IT SURE IS A TROUBLESOME THING!
OH, IT'S JUST BECAUSE I FOUND OUT THAT THIS SCHOOL WAS BARELY IN RANGE OF MY HOUSE...




THE BASEBALL TEAM HAS INCREASED ITS STRENGTH WITH THE ADDITION OF A STRONG PLAYER...
LOOKS LIKE...

NEXT, CHAPTER, REGIONAL TOURNAMENT!

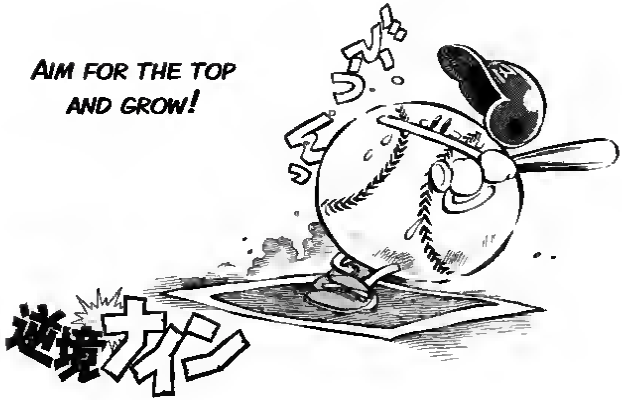
Translation notes

"Sore wa sore, kore wa kore" "That is that, this is this"

The first time I read that, it seemed jarringly out of place and engrishy. It seems to be implying that 2 different situations require 2 different approaches. Trying to make the line sound more like natural English, we tried "That was that. This is this" or "That was then. This is now" but the more I and the others repeated the original line and thought about it, the more it made sense and it was indeed grammatically correct as well. So that's what we're going with.

Plus, there was once a 2chan thread where people posted images where that line appeared in various mangas, including One Piece, Genshikan, and JoJo part 5, among others. Meaning the use of the line has caught on. Unfortunately due to the ephemeral nature of it, it'll be hard to dig it back up. And due to laziness, it'll be hard to find where it appears.

~ crinale



SEVEN STAR STORIES
TRANS: RIAS
PROOFS: G, TATEWAKI KUNO
EDITS: CRINALE
HTTP://SEVENSTARSTORIES.BLOGSPOT.COM

Zenryoku Gakuen Baseball Team Player Positions

7 5 LF
Furuya Hideaki
(1st Year)

8 8 CF
Yokoyama Naoya
(1st Year)

9 9 RF
Yamashita Tetsuo
(1st Year)

6 1 SS
Shinyashiki Akira
(3rd Year)

4 7 2B
Kobayashi Takashi
(3rd Year)

1 3 P
Fukutsu Toshi
(3rd Year)

5
6 3B
Minami
Hiroshi
(1st Year)

3
2 1B
Gotoh
Takeshi
(2nd Year)

2 4 C
Ooishi Kurasuke
(3rd Year)

Manager
Tsukita Akiko
(2nd Year)

Team Advisor
Sakakibara Go
(Social Studies Teacher)

ADVERSITY IS...
...SAID TO BE AN ABNORMALLY TOUGH SITUATION THAT YOU NEVER WOULD'VE EXPECTED TO HAPPEN!!

CHAPTER 4
KNOW YOUR ENEMY
KNOW YOURSELF!
HOWEVER
FOR A MAN, IT IS ESSENTIAL IN ORDER TO MATURE!

STR
IKE
!!
全力
NICE PITCHING!
NICE PITCH-ING!

FACING OFF AGAINST STRONG TEAMS FROM ALL OVER THE NATION, THIS NEWCOMER TEAM, ZENRYOKU GAKUEN, IS DOING SURPRISINGLY WELL!
WE'RE NOW IN THE 3RD ROUND OF KOSHIEN!!
BATTING 4TH, PITCHER FUKUTSU!!
カキン
カキン
THIS IS IT! THIS IS THE MAN!

HIS EYE-OPENING PITCHING STYLE HAS MADE EVERYONE IN THE COUNTRY THINK TWICE BEFORE FACING HIM. THIS IS PITCHER FUKUTSU TOSHI!
HE HAS BEEN COMPARED TO OCHIDA, THE PITCHER WHO ALMOST LED HIS TEAM TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP LAST YEAR.

NOT A SINGLE PLAYER FROM ZENRYOKU GAKUEN CAN HIT OCHIDA'S FORKBALL!

FORK BALL !?
IT'S THE FORK BALL!
I WAS TOO CARELESS!
WHO... WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THAT SOMEONE AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL WOULD BE ABLE TO THROW A FORKBALL...
THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN HIT IT!
WE'RE LIKE FROGS SITTING AT THE BOTTOM OF A WELL...
A PITCH THAT WE HAVE NEVER SEEN BEFORE IN OUR LIVES...

HUH !?
.....
I TELE-PORTED...
FROM KOSHIEN TO HERE!?
DON'T TELL ME...
WH... WHERE IS THIS?
MY ROOM !?

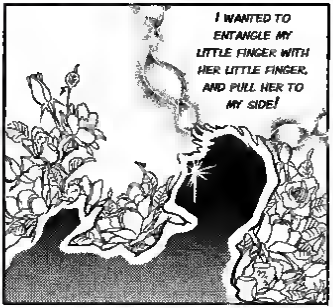
INSTEAD OF WORRYING ABOUT MY NEW PSYCHIC POWERS...
I GOTTA FIND OUT ABOUT THE MATCH!
OH NO!
7:00
TV: GOOD MORNING SEVEN!
HOW'S EVERYONE DOING ON THIS FINE MORNING?
GOOD MORNING EVERY-ONE!
MOR-NING !?

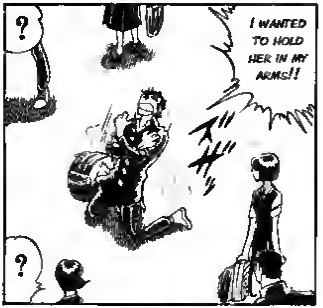
TRANS NOTE THAT'S ULTRAMAN SEVEN A PIC FOR YOU
HTTP://WWW.SHOPPINGATHOME.NET/IMAGES/SMARTKID/S/003.JPG

IT WAS A DREAM!!
HAAA

But at least in my dream, I was able to see the team play from the first regional match all the way to the 3rd round of Koshien..
Even I was all battered up after that.
I managed to get a team that can't stop whining to go through harsh training..
But in the end I was able to endure it all!
I had thought about running away or quitting numerous times...
It turns out that she actually liked me instead and confessed her love to me!
And then, even though I thought Tsukita had a crush on Ryo...
In truth, I'm quite exhausted this morning...
ZZZ
ZZZ

It hurt me the most seeing Tsukita standing there without saying a single word..
I couldn't respond to her feelings because I was preparing for Koshien...
It was tough for me. Those 3 days...


I wanted to entangle my little finger with her little finger, and pull her to my side!


?
?
I wanted to hold her in my arms!!

JUST A DREAM ...!!

All of that...

That...

THIS PISSES ME OFF!
THE REALITY IS THAT I'M STILL STUCK AT THE FIRST REGIONAL MATCH!?
ALTHOUGH MY HEART HAS ALREADY FLOWN TO KOSHIEN...
UGAAN

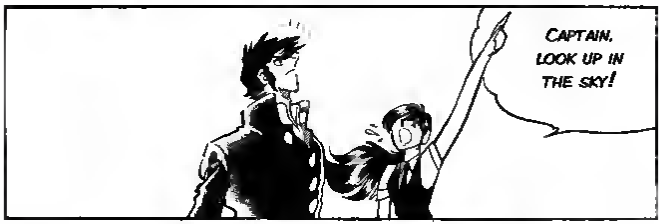
SIGN: BASEBALL CLUBROOM

WE WERE FIGHTING AT KOSHIEN...
IN THE THIRD ROUND!
LAST NIGHT I HAD A DREAM.
WE DID IT, FUKUTSU!
IT'S A GOOD OMEN!
CAPTAIN, THAT'S A PROPHETIC DREAM!
IS THAT WHAT YOU ALL ARE THINKING!!
THE POINT IS, IN THE 3RD ROUND, WE WERE FACING THIS YEAR'S FAVORITE, TORIDENI HIGH SCHOOL...
BUT NOT A SINGLE ONE OF US COULD COUNTER HIS FORKBALL...!!
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT TOO!
YEAH!

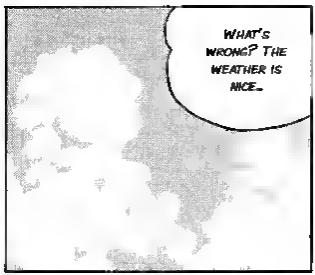
……!?
……?
THAT'S WHY I WANT EVERYONE TO PRACTICE HITTING FORKBALLS STARTING FROM TODAY!!
ALRIGHT !!

SACRIFICE THE SMALL AND AIM FOR THE BIG...
YOU UNDERSTAND DON'T YOU, TSUKITA?
I DON'T!

WE HAVEN'T EVEN WON ONCE AT THE REGIONAL MATCHES YET!
WAIT A SECOND, CAPTAIN!


CAPTAIN, LOOK UP IN THE SKY!

THEY'RE SURE TO ALWAYS BE LOOKING UP AND AIMING HIGH!!
YOUNG ONES... THAT'S RIGHT...

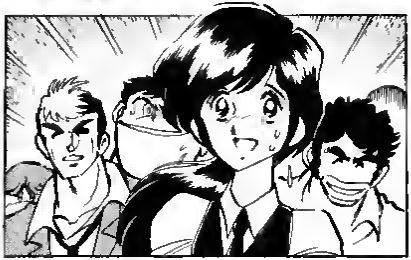

WHAT'S WRONG? THE WEATHER IS NICE...

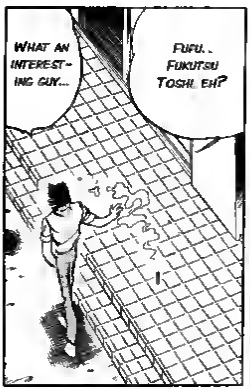
ガシャン!!
俺にゃ弱点

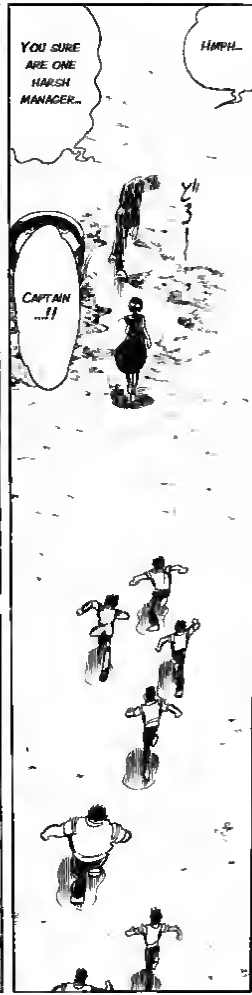
ドド
ドド
ぶしゅ
ぶしゅ
ぶしゅ
……
……
YOU LOST SIGHT OF REALITY WHILE YOU WERE BUSY DAYDREAMING!!
CAPTAIN!
SERVES YOU RIGHT..

BUT IT'S ALRIGHT IF YOU HATE ME.. AS LONG AS I CAN OPEN YOUR EYES. CAPTAIN..
I DIDN'T WANT TO DO THAT... I AM NOT THAT KIND OF A GIRL..
SORRY CAPTAIN..
RIGHT NOW OUR ENEMY IS DAMASHITA SYOGYO!
WHO CARES ABOUT TORIDENI HIGH SCHOOL!
DON'T YOU GET THAT?
HERE!
TAKE THIS!
AND THAT!
WAHH!
STOP THAT. TSUKITA!

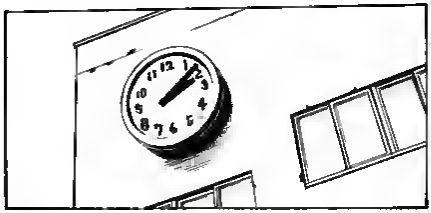
I HAVE FINALLY REALIZED...
THANKS...

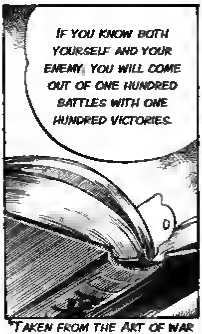



WHAT AN INTEREST-ING GUY...
FUFU.. FUKUTSU TOSHI EH?


YOU SURE ARE ONE HARSH MANAGER...
HMPH...
CAPTAIN ...!!

BLACKBOARD: SAKAKIBARA GO
MY NAME IS SAKAKIBARA GO!
MS. ANDO IS TAKING HER MATERNITY LEAVE, SO I WAS CALLED TO THIS SCHOOL TO SUBSTITUTE FOR HER.
I'M IN CHARGE OF SOCIAL STUDIES...
サカキバラゴウ
MY SPECIALTY IS HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT!
THAT IS ALL.
サカキバラゴウ

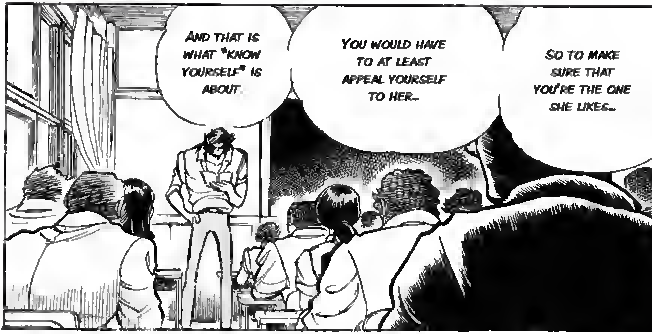


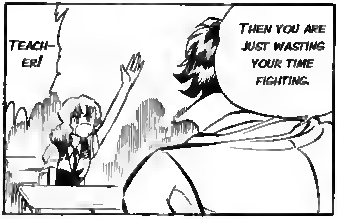


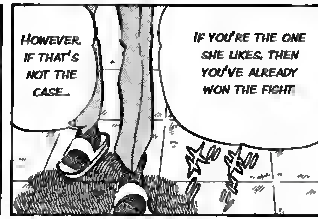
*TAKEN FROM THE ART OF WAR

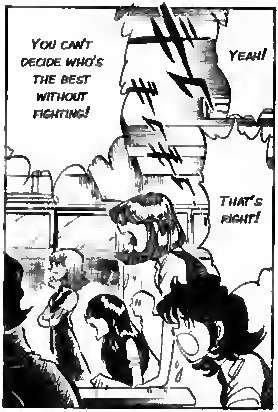
For example, you guys all have a girl you like, right?
That's correct. That's one of Sun Tzu's fundamental rules of victory. But
If you can calmly gauge both your own and your opponent's strength, then you can fight even a hundred times safely.
Hmm...
Hmm...
Being a man, there will come a time when you would have to fight over her!

ザワザワザワ
ザワザワ…
AT THAT TIME, IT'S NOT ABOUT HOW STRONG YOUR OPPONENT IS!
THE QUESTION IS, DOES THAT GIRL LIKE YOU BACK?
THAT'S WHAT "KNOW YOUR ENEMY" IS ABOUT...
ANY QUESTIONS SO FAR?


And that is what "know yourself" is about.
You would have to at least appeal yourself to her...
So to make sure that you're the one she likes...


Teach-er!
Then you are just wasting your time fighting.


However, if that's not the case...
If you're the one she likes, then you've already won the fight.


You can't decide who's the best without fighting!
Yeah!
That's right!

I can't judge who I like most without seeing them fight!
But I like a strong guy!

FULL OF THE SMELL OF NAIVETÉ.
YOU'RE ALL STILL GREEN...
FU FU..
IWAMOTO OF THE RUGBY CLUB... STAND UP
WELL LET'S EXPERIMENT
YES SIR.
H..
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
SHIMIZU.. YOU LIKE "A STRONG PERSON" LIKE IWAMOTO. CORRECT?

LET'S GO.
IWAMOTO
!!

WHAT'S WRONG, IWAMOTO?
NOT GOING TO FIGHT BACK?
SHI-MIZU!
NOW THAT I'VE WON, YOU LIKE ME, RIGHT?
.....

FU
HA
HA
HA
HA
KYA

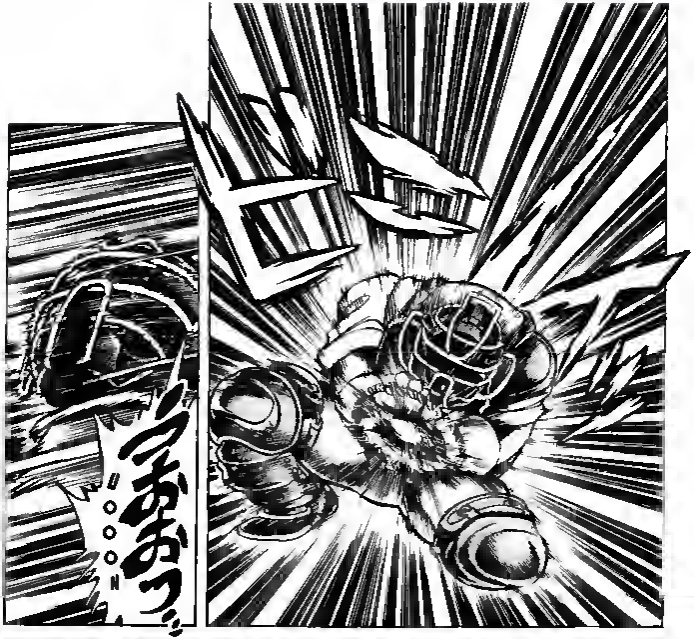
TEACHER! STOP!
STOP!
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU LIKE A STRONG PERSON, RIGHT?
I'M SORRY!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!!
CLASS IS OVER!
STAND!

BOW!
KNOW YOURSELF...
KNOW YOUR ENEMY...

HITACHI
REC
REPORTER TSUKITA AKKO HERE!
PLEASE CALL ME AKKO!
ALRIGHT, GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE!
DAMASHITA SYOGYO
Akko-chan's secret countermeasures video for the first regional match

D
HERE...
AND HERE...
THIS IS NUMBER 5, THE PITCHER TABAKARI.

Whenever his arms and leg bend like that, he throws a curve ball!
This is how you can tell what the pitcher will do.
Watch here! His arms are extended straight...
Next we have his fastball...
Even his leg!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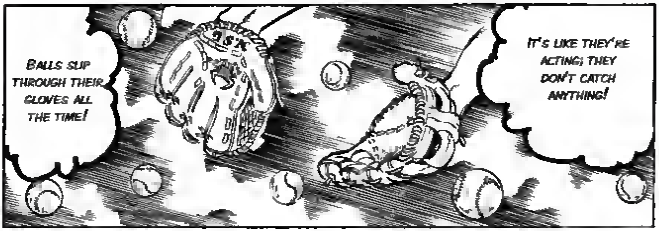
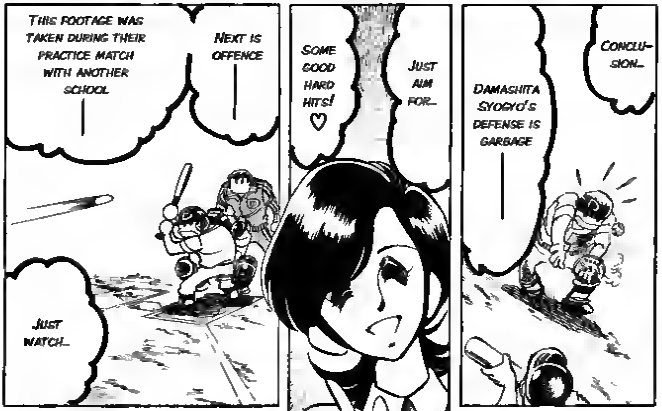
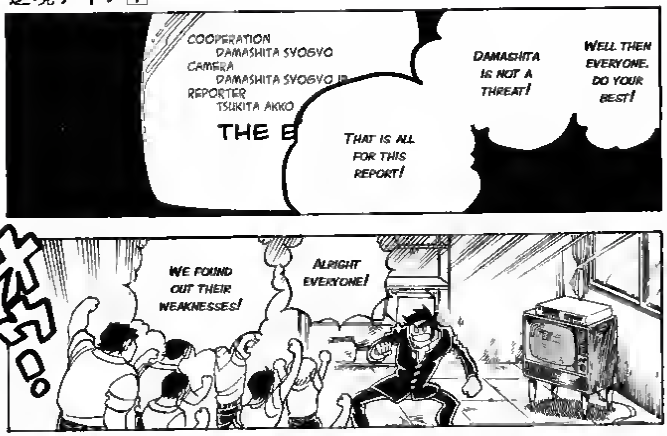
His fastball is pretty quick...
But everyone can just wait for his arm to bend!
Since his curveball isn't very good!
Next is the defense!
They've been practicing hard day and night!

BUT THEY'RE STILL QUITE BAD AT IT!
IT'S ALMOST LIKE THEY WANT THE BALL TO SLIP!


BALLS SLIP THROUGH THEIR GLOVES ALL THE TIME!
IT'S LIKE THEY'RE ACTING; THEY DON'T CATCH ANYTHING!


THIS FOOTAGE WAS TAKEN DURING THEIR PRACTICE MATCH WITH ANOTHER SCHOOL
NEXT IS OFFENCE
JUST WATCH...
SOME GOOD HARD HITS! ♡
JUST AIM FOR...
DAMASHITA SYOGYO'S DEFENSE IS GARBAGE
CONCLU-SION...

They swing in a funny way!
Watch here!
With an average height of 165cm, is their team made of little kids or something?
Their weakness is that they are too short!
Aim for that, okay? ♡
Damashita's batters can't hit high balls!
Conclusion...
But look! When the ball is low...
They're good at hitting grounders!


COOPERATION
DAMASHITA SYOSYO
CAMERA
DAMASHITA SYOSYO JR
REPORTER
TSUKITA AKKO
THE E
THAT IS ALL FOR THIS REPORT!
DAMASHITA IS NOT A THREAT!
WELL THEN EVERYONE, DO YOUR BEST!
ALRIGHT EVERYONE!
WE FOUND OUT THEIR WEAKNESSES!
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FROM THAT DAY ON, THE ZENRYOKU NINE PRACTICED HITTING CURVEBALLS AND BUNTING!
KNOW YOUR ENEMY AND YOURSELF, AND YOU WILL COME OUT OF ONE HUNDRED BATTLES WITH ONE HUNDRED VICTORIES!

EVER SINCE MR. TAKATA LEFT IN APRIL THAT SPOT HAS BEEN VACANT!
.....
IT'S ABOUT TIME THAT YOU DECIDE ON A CLUB ADVISOR FOR US!
IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR THE REGIONAL MATCHES.
MR. PRINCIPAL!
DO REMEMBER THAT WE PROMISED TO BRING BACK THE CHAMPIONSHIP FLAG OF KOSHIEN!
ALTHOUGH OURS IS A TEAM THAT CAN BE CANCELLED AT ANY MOMENT..
HOW'S THAT!
AS A PARTING GIFT FOR THE TEAM I WILL LET YOU PICK A TEACHER OF YOUR CHOICE.
WHO IT WILL BE..?
I UNDER-STAND..

I WANT MR. SAKAKIBARA GO WHO IS STANDING RIGHT THERE!

OH?
I KNOW ABOUT LIFE...
BUT NOTHING ABOUT BASEBALL...
BUT YOU KNOW ABOUT HISTORY!
THE TREASURE LEFT BY OUR ANCESTORS!
AM I WRONG!?

THE HISTORY OF BASEBALL IS ONLY ABOUT 150 YEARS!
COMPARED WITH MANKIND'S HISTORY FROM BIRTH TILL NOW...
MERE GUTTER TRASH!

WE NEED SOMETHING MUCH DEEPER!
TO GET TO KOSHIEN, WE DON'T NEED ANY BASEBALL KNOWLEDGE!
HOW-EVER
FINE THEN
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO TEACH US THAT!!

THAT I DON'T FIGHT A LOST BATTLE!
YOU SHOULD KNOW FROM MY CLASSES...
NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRY, THE MOMENT YOU LOSE
UNDER-STAND THIS!!
I WILL LEAVE YOU BEHIND WITHOUT ANY MERCY!

THE ADVISOR HAS BEEN DECIDED!
ALL THAT REMAINS IS THE BATTLE!
BUT SOMETHING TO PONDER!!
CAN THEY REALLY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
DAMASHITA SYOGYO'S WEAKNESSES!?

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